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Anti-Israel attacks not terrorism: Maksoud

US becoming a mouthpiece for Israel

ABU DHABI, March 4, (Agencies): An Arab League official today accused the United States of becoming a "mouthpiece" for Israeli demands rather than using its fledgling dialogue with the PLO to develop its own policy in the Middle East.

Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's representative to the United Nations and the US also justified recent Palestinian incursions in southern Lebanon as "legitimate acts of self-defence" and said he would only order a truce if it was reciprocated by Israel.

In the latest incident on Thursday, Israeli troops killed four DFLP guerrillas in a clash only three miles north of the Israeli border with Lebanon.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat has defended such operations as legitimate acts of self-defence and said he would only order a truce if it was reciprocated by Israel.

Presence

Arafat said his pledge to renounce terrorism did not include guerrilla operations against the Israeli military presence in southern Lebanon.

Maksoud said Redman's statement indicated the dialogue has become "more of an instrument of relaying Israeli messages and demands rather than developing American policies."

The Arab League official, who is currently visiting the UAE on his way to Australia, said while Washington's policies in the Middle East remained hostile to Israeli "demands and tantrums," the Soviet Union has unveiled what he described as "a more dynamic, comprehensive, coherent and clear" initiative to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Maksoud was referring to the peace plan made last month by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during his tour of five Middle East states. Shevardnadze has called for a period of six to nine months to start serious preparations for an international peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by all parties to the conflict, including the PLO.

Initiative

Maksoud said the Arab states, while welcoming the Soviet initiative, did not see it as "either a confrontation or competition with US."

"The Soviet initiative carries within it the seeds of assisting the US in developing its own clear and coherent Middle East policy in the spirit of superpower

detente ... and how this detente enables the United Nations to become the framework and the mechanism of resolving regional problems, including the Arab-Israeli conflict," he said.

According to Maksoud, the Arabs' main problem with the US was that Washington continued to give the impression that the Middle East issue must be considered "outside the realm of probable solutions."

Equated

"The US cannot shield Israeli intransigence any longer and it has to use its leverage on Israel to comply with the elements of international legitimacy," he added.

The PLO today expressed astonishment at the warning issued by the State Department that equated Palestinian guerrilla attacks inside south Lebanon with terrorism.

"The PLO is amazed that the State Department issued such a statement while at the same time 'remaining silent during air, sea and land attacks launched daily by Israel against south Lebanon,'" said a PLO spokesman quoted by the Palestinian news agency Wafa.

"The PLO, which has launched an initiative to bring about a just peace in the region, is not striving for a temporary truce but that there should be a lasting, comprehensive and just peace at the same time," he added.

Supporting the PLO's views, Maksoud said: "Any aspects of the uprising or resistance in southern Lebanon to be put under the rubric of terrorism is categorically rejected and totally unacceptable."

Message

PLO executive committee member Jamal Sourani said that the PLO had received a message from an Israeli minister, proposing a secret meeting with PLO leaders.

Sourani, in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily said the PLO however had rejected the proposal and said if such a meeting is to take place it must be made public.

The PLO rejects any sort of agreement with Israel over a truce in southern Lebanon, he stressed.

Iran urges UK to ban Rushdie's book

Muslims offended, admits Thatcher

NICOSIA, March 4, (Agencies): Iran urged Britain today to go beyond calling The Satanic Verses offensive and ban the book to defuse their crisis in relations.

A Tehran Radio commentary said an explicit stance by Britain that the book was offensive "can be effective in removing the present crisis provided (this) followed up by practical measures, despite coming after a long delay."

Nearly 40 people were injured in street battles in various parts of the northern Indian province of Kashmir today when Muslims enraged by the book fought pitched battles with police.

Without mentioning author Salman Rushdie or The Satanic Verses by name, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said yesterday Islam had been deeply offended but should be able to shrug off the insult.

Response

"We've known in our religion people doing things which are deeply offensive to some of us ... and that is what has happened in Islam," she said in response to reporters' questions about the Rushdie controversy.

"I think that these great

religions are strong enough and deep enough to withstand these kind of events," Thatcher said.

Her Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe described parts of the book as distressing and provocative but like Thatcher insisted Britain would continue to uphold freedom of speech.

Home Secretary Douglas Hurd said today the British government understood many Muslims were insulted but he denied it was trying to distance itself from Rushdie.

Overture

The Iranian news agency IRNA described Thatcher's remarks as sympathetic and an "overture" aimed at healing relations.

Iran's Parliament voted last week to break off ties with Britain on Tuesday unless it went back on its defence of Rushdie, a Briton born into a Muslim family in Bombay.

Tehran Radio said in its commentary that having accepted the offensive nature of "The Satanic Verses", Britain could no longer object to the order by spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini that

(Continued on Page 2)



A police officer stands guard beside one passenger car that plunged down an embankment after two trains collided in South London. (Reuters wirephoto)

9 killed in British train crash

LONDON, March 4, (Reuters): Nine people were killed and at least 50 injured when two passenger trains collided today in South London in three months, a hospital spokesman said.

He said six people died at the scene and three in hospital after two trains crashed into each other near the suburban station of Purley.

Several carriages crashed down an embankment into gardens and one was ripped apart by the impact.

Hurt

Rescue workers said everyone had been cut free from the wreckage. But some of the injured were seriously hurt and the number of dead could rise.

The trains were both heading for London's Victoria station when one apparently hit the back of the other and swung across the track.

Several carriages smashed down a steep slope into gardens and rolled over, leaving others perched precariously on the edge of the embankment. Firemen rushed to the scene to cut passengers free and hospital workers aided the injured.

Witness Meesha Footer said six trees were cut in half by the force of carriages careering off the rails.

"I could hear people shouting and groaning ... there was a lot of blood and I saw one body covered with a blanket. There was one man with his leg hanging off," she said.

Junior Transport Minister Michael Portillo inspected the wreckage of the accident, which occurred just three months after the Clapham train crash killed 35.

"It's a terrible scene. There is a lot of destruction," he said. "It (the train) was sideswiped by the faster train coming behind ... one accident is terrible enough and to have two within three months is obviously very distressing."

Portillo said.

A Mayday Hospital spokeswoman said 22 people were still being treated, up to 10 of them in critical condition.

A spokesman for the British Rail, the state-owned railway network, said it was not immediately clear what caused today's crash.

"We will have to look into the signalling and interview both drivers," he said.

A building worker who saw the collision told reporters: "I heard a thud, looked up and saw smoke ... lots of people were moaning."

Local residents ran out of their houses to help emergency services in the race to rescue trapped passengers in the wreckage of the blue-and-white carriages.

"We used ladders as stretchers to carry the people out," Fred Williams said.

The Legal News said the explosion occurred on the bus shortly after it left a Zhengzhou station on Thursday.

'Israeli occupation must end'

Political solution needed: Waldegrave

GAZA CITY, March 4, (Agencies): Britain will contribute £500,000 (\$871,000) to help Palestinian refugees, but what is needed is a political solution, British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said today after touring a refugee camp in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Waldegrave also criticised the Israeli Army's handling of the 14-month-old Palestinian nationalist uprising.

"It is imperative that all of us should do this to show the people that they are not forgotten," Waldegrave said of the British contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the benefit of Palestinian refugees.

But he added: "It is no good to buy them off, they need a political solution."

The Army barred reporters from accompanying Waldegrave as he toured the Jabalyia refugee camp, on the outskirts of Gaza City. He spoke to reporters as he left the camp.

Violent

Jabalyia, home to 50,000 Palestinians, has been a frequent site of violent clashes between rock-throwing Palestinians and soldiers throughout the uprising.

"My coming here only emphasises the utter impossibility of continuing the military occupation," Waldegrave said.

He displayed four marbled rubber-coated pellets, of the type routinely shot by Israeli troops to disperse Palestinian demonstrations.

"I'm told they are fired in clusters, in a shower," Waldegrave said. "They are an indiscriminate weapon and are not helping to produce a political settlement."

Waldegrave yesterday toured the West Bank and met with Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek. Waldegrave, who is on a week-long fact-finding mission, is

scheduled to meet Foreign Minister Moshe Arens tomorrow and will depart on Monday for Jordan.

Troops turned back hundreds of Israelis who tried to visit Palestinians during a "day of peace" today but several hundred others were allowed into the occupied West Bank, organisers of the demonstration said.

Local leaders of the Palestinian uprising, in a leaflet issued yesterday, had called on Arab residents to welcome the supporters of the Peace Now movement "with open arms."

Clashed

Arab sources said Palestinians waiting for the groups to arrive clashed with troops in the centre of Ramallah and two were injured by gunshots.

About 1,500 Peace Now supporters set out from four cities this morning heading for Arab towns in the West Bank. Organisers said troops set up roadblocks and stopped three groups heading for Ramallah, Nablus and Beit Sahour.

But a Peace Now spokesman, Amiram Goldbloom, said several hundred others persuaded soldiers to let them visit two Arab villages near Nablus.

He said another group of about 200 met Palestinians at Beit Sira near Ramallah.

Kenya expels Sudan's diplomats

NAIROBI, March 4, (Reuters): Sudan's charge d'affaires in Nairobi said he and a senior colleague were accused of spying and ordered out of Kenya today. Ali Youssuf, the head of the Sudanese mission, told Reuters the Kenyan Foreign Ministry summoned him and embassy counsellor Naser Basher and asked them to leave the country immediately.

Sub-contractors deny they were garlanded with shoes

By Fathima Ahmed

TWO Indian sub-contractors of a housing project at Al Qurain denied yesterday that they were garlanded with shoes by 900 angry workers last Wednesday and insisted they were taken to the camp against their will.

Javed Quraishi and H.S. Merwah, giving their version of the story on the labour problem at the project, admitted responsibility for paying the wages of the labourers, but said they would pay salaries up to Jan 21, when work on the project halted, if the labourers resume work.

The Arab Times yesterday reported that Kuwait's police rescued the two contractors when, according to one worker, things got out of hand.

Bribe

The workers claimed to have garlanded the sub-contractors with shoes after they allegedly tried to bribe some of the workers to help end the strike.

Quraishi and Merwah said: "This is baseless."

They said on Feb 28 they went to the Indian embassy to attend a meeting on the labour dispute.

"When we came out of the embassy building after the talks, we were hustled into jeeps and driven to the labour camp with a promise that we will be returned to the city later in the day in time for a meeting in the city," the sub-contractors claimed.

"This did not happen," they added, "and we were kept at the camp and verbally abused by the workers."

They said they are willing to pay two-and-a-half months back pay.

Wages

Insisting that they don't owe four months wages, Quraishi and Javed alleged some of the 900 labourers are "working on other projects in Al Qurain and earning while receiving charity."

They said their financial difficulties were compounded by the presence of 350 surplus workers — plumbers, masons and painters — who were not needed at this stage of the project but had to be paid since their arrival last August.

Quraishi and Merwah said there may soon be a breakthrough in settling the dispute but stopped short of raising high hopes.

Soviets to reduce oil exports by 5 per cent this year

MOSCOW, March 4, (Agencies): The Soviet Union, the world's largest producer of oil, will cut oil exports by five per cent in the first half of 1989, Tass news agency said yesterday.

The announcement followed speculation in OPEC circles that Moscow would take measures to support the organisation.

A one-paragraph report quoting Vladimir Arutyunyan, chairman of the All-Union Foreign Trade Association, Soyuzneftexport said: "Soviet oil exports for freely convertible currency will be reduced approximately by five per cent in the first six months of 1989 as against the same period of 1988."

The Soviet Union sent observers to a Feb 21 meeting of experts in London where six non-OPEC states — Egypt, Oman, China, North Yemen, Mexico and Malaysia — agreed to cut exports by five per cent to support OPEC's bid to buoy prices.

Some opted for an export freeze while others were undecided, but details would be announced this week, the experts said then.

Remarks

OPEC Secretary-General Subroto expected the Moscow announcement, according to remarks published yesterday in Abu Dhabi's Al Itihad newspaper.

"We are still waiting from Moscow to inform us of the specific measures which it will take to support OPEC," he was quoted as saying.

The announcement marked the first time Moscow had taken measures to support OPEC.

The announcement followed reports in London on Thursday that Soviet Union and China would cut exports by 400,000 barrels a day in the second quarter of 1988.

Deal struck between Najibullah and rebel leader

Supplies reach Kabul

KABUL, March 4, (Reuters): A convoy of several hundred trucks carrying food and fuel from the Soviet Union reached the Afghan capital virtually unscathed today following a deal struck between rebels and President Najibullah.

Afghan officials said up to 600 trucks arrived from the Soviet border town of Termez and 300 more were expected tomorrow.

Truck drivers reported foul weather along the route down the Salang highway from the Soviet border to Kabul through territory held by Muslim rebels but only a single attack, apparently launched by a rival group not a party to the deal.

"There was only one mujahideen attack," said Abdul Fatah, a convoy organiser. He said three rockets were fired from mountains north of Kabul. One set fire to a fuel tanker but the driver survived.

Convoy

An Afghan official said Najibullah and his left-wing People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) government struck a deal with a rebel commander controlling Kabul province and the Salang area to allow the convoy to pass safely.

"He is a very important man — his name is known to all," the official said. He declined to name him but a

ter of this year.

Although China has yet to announce any cutbacks, the Soviet announcement of the cut-back came after the signing yesterday in Moscow of trade protocol between the two governments.

The protocol signed at deputy foreign trade minister level called for a 17 per cent rise in trade turnover between the two countries in 1989 to a level of 4.8 billion Swiss francs (\$7.48 billion).

The protocol was signed in advance of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's scheduled visit to China in May.

The official announcement of the trade protocol did not mention any Soviet-Chinese discussion on oil.

Soviet oil output has risen in recent years, reaching a record 12.6 million barrels per day during parts of 1987-88, although Western analysts say the trend may be ending.

Soviet Oil Industry Minister Vasily Dinkov said in early February Moscow was ready to co-operate with all OPEC members to stabilise the market, but he did not cite any specific measures.

Problems

The fall in the world oil prices has been a major factor — often mentioned by Gorbachev — in contributing to problems of the Soviet economy.

Oil exports provide some 60 per cent of Soviet foreign exchange, but weak prices and a weak dollar have cut earnings.

Last year, when Soviet oil output was 62.4 million tonnes, crude oil and refined product sales to Western nations rose by 7.9 per cent. But export revenue fell 11.8 per cent to \$10.1 billion, according to Western estimates.

Third World envoy said the rebel leader was most likely Ahmad Shah Massoud, the most successful mujahideen field commander in the nine-year fight against Afghan troops and the now-departed Soviet forces.

Massoud is reported to have extended his reach to Kunduz province near the Soviet border.

"Yes there was a deal," said Fatah. "Massoud does not stop food and fuel for Kabul now. The rockets were fired by Gulbuddin's men."

Fatah was referring to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a hardline Afghan rebel leader opposed to any compromise with Najibullah.

The deal would account for both the approach of the convoy, which had been delayed for nearly a week, and the absence of rebel shelling or rocket attacks on Kabul in the past 12 days.

The official said the quid-pro quo for the rebel commander would be food, land, fertilisers, an assurance that he would be allowed to retain de facto control over his areas of influence and even the right to buy arms.

A deal with Massoud could bolster Najibullah and the PDPA against the rival government elected by rebel political leaders at a shura (Islamic council meeting) in Pakistan last month.

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- مرکز سے حجاز آ کر آبی پنجاب کے حق میں نہیں راؤ
- ایم کیو ایم اور لیپلی کا معاہدہ بنانے کی کوششیں
- سمجھوتے کی شیطانی آیات کے دل آزار ہونے کا اعتراف کرنا
- سکھ اہمیت پر آج راج ہاکر دینے جائیں گے
- سوڈان میں حکومتوں کی تشکیل پر اتفاق
- چار کوریائی ہسٹن کاقدام خود کشی
- نیوزی لینڈ نے پاکستان کو ہرا دیا

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate north-westerly wind freshening at times.

State of sea: moderate to rough

High water: 9.24 am

Low water: 4.41 am 3.45 pm

Sunrise: 6.09 am

Sunset: 5.50 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 24°C 75°F

Ahmad: 20°C 68°F

Falaka: 21°C 70°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 13°C 55°F

Ahmad: 12°C 52°F

Falaka: 14°C 57°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 23°C 73°F

Ahmad: 20°C 68°F

Falaka: 20°C 68°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 56 per cent

Ahmad: 54 per cent

Falaka: 59 per cent

INTERNATIONAL

Bush refuses to intervene

Eastern Airlines employees on strike

MIAMI, March 4, (AP): Eastern Airlines employees walked off their jobs just after midnight yesterday in a strike that threatened to cause nationwide transportation chaos and could put one of the nation's largest airlines out of business.

The strike was called by the machinists union that represents Eastern's 8,500 mechanics and ground employees. The airline's 3,400 pilots voted overwhelmingly to honour the strike.

Meanwhile, machinists members in other transportation fields planned sympathy strikes that could shut down Amtrak — the national passenger railroad — and commuter railroads that carry hundreds of thousands into some of the country's largest cities.

"It's the most overwhelming support I have seen in the history of the labour movement," said machinists union local president Charles Bryan after federally mediated talks collapsed in Washington and unionists threw up pickets.

"It's no longer a fight between machinists and Eastern. It's a fight between labour and corporate America," said machinists general chairman Wally Haber.

The strike capped an emotional 17-month feud over wage concessions between the union and Eastern that pitted Bryan — a charismatic leader given to quoting oriental philosophers — against Eastern

boss Frank Lorenzo, a steely entrepreneur whose union-busting tactics have made him highly unpopular among organised labour.

The Miami-based Eastern — which carries about 100,000 passengers a day, primarily on the densely populated East Coast and in Latin America and the Caribbean — has said it was losing about \$1 million a day. The airline wanted to implement wage cuts of about \$150 million annually.

Graveyard
Lorenzo warned that the strike could put Eastern "in the corporate graveyard" and asked President George Bush not to form a special investigative panel, a move that would have

delayed the wage cuts for 60 days.

Bush yesterday decided against the intervention, which had been recommended by mediators. Labour analysts saw the decision as a major indicator of how the new President would approach labour issues.

The walkout instantly disrupted Eastern flights at Miami and carloads of picketers careened into other airports at the midnight (0500 GMT) strike start.

In Miami, about 3,000 workers charged across the street from the local union hall to corporate headquarters, chanting and carrying placards. Some hurled rocks, bottles and concrete blocks over the barbed wire-topped fence.



Bush (right) speaks to reporters before attending a defence briefing with Tower (left) at the Pentagon. (Reuters wirephoto)

Republicans urge opportunity for Tower to face critics

WASHINGTON, March 4, (Reuters): Republican leader Robert Dole has suggested that embattled defence secretary-designate John Tower be given his day in court by facing his Senate critics in a closed plenary session.

As controversy swirled around President Bush's nominee on the second full day of Senate debate, Dole said yesterday legislators should observe "the spirit of decency and fair play" to give John Tower his day in court — right here in the United States Senate.

Bush yesterday showed his support by visiting Tower, who has been working at the Pentagon though not confirmed as defence secretary.

But even as Dole fought to

rescue Tower's nomination from charges he was unfit to head the Pentagon because of excessive drinking, indiscreet behaviour toward women and his close ties to the defence industry, two more Democrats announced they intend to vote against him.

Dole said he would like to see Tower come to the Democratic-controlled Senate "to answer his critics face to face, charge by charge, rumour by rumour and fact by fact, and to state his case to those senators who are truly undecided."

The Republican leader said he might formally request approval for Tower's appearance next week.

Democratic leader George Mitchell did not respond directly to Dole but said he hoped for a vote on the nomination next

week. The Senate armed services committee voted against recommending Tower for the top Pentagon post.

Rumour

But Mitchell said if Republicans really believed Federal Bureau of Investigation background reports on Tower were full of rumour and innuendo, "there ought not to be any misunderstanding ... as to who controls access to them."

Mitchell suggested Bush could make the reports public.

Senators have expressed frustration that they cannot discuss the reports openly though some portions that have been leaked and published allegedly contained charges against Tower by unreliable witnesses.

WHO plans for AIDS vaccine tests

GENEVA, March 4, (Reuters): The World Health Organisation (WHO) is to start planning for large-scale trials of potential anti-AIDS vaccine so as not to waste time when one becomes available, the group's top AIDS specialist said yesterday.

Four possible vaccines are already being tried privately on a small number of people in the United States, Switzerland and Zaire, WHO AIDS programme chief Jonathan Mann said.

He told a news conference that it was important now to settle some tough issues regarding international tests so that acceptable wide-scale testing can begin as soon as an experimental vaccine has passed initial trials.

"In this way, the World Health Organisation seeks to accelerate the ultimate result, which is the availability of a safe and effective vaccine," Mann said.

In any case, it will be at least five to 10 years before an effective vaccine is ready for the public, he said.

The search for vaccines — for prevention — is separate from the rush to find a cure for the so far fatal disease.

Forty treatment drugs are now being tried, none of them so far as effective as AZT — a drug developed in the United States which has raised the survival rate of sufferers despite certain side-effects, Mann said.

He was speaking after 39 scientific, legal and ethical experts who met in Geneva this week reached consensus on broad guidelines for vaccine testing. They also debated problems such as how to distinguish bet-

ween someone vaccinated against AIDS and someone actually infected with the AIDS virus.

Ironically, science has not yet come up with a way of distinguishing between the two, Mann said. A vaccinated person will develop antibodies against the virus just as a person who is infected — and tests now look for antibodies.

With sicknesses like measles that does not matter. But it does with AIDS because of the discrimination a vaccinated candidate might face — for example, from insurance companies which require testing for the virus. A vaccinated person would also not be able to find out in later tests if he subsequently became infected by the AIDS virus.

Lebanese concerned at reports of Israeli expansion

BEIRUT, March 4, (AP): The Muslim and Christian cabinets in Lebanon's dual government today issued separate statements voicing concern over a reported plan by Israel to expand its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, who heads the Muslim cabinet, told Lebanon's envoy to the United Nations, Rashid Fakhr, to "draw the world's attention to Israel's intentions," an official statement said.

The rival Christian cabinet of Gen. Michel Aoun, in a statement published by the independent daily *Al Nahar*, expressed "deep concern over the statements made by some Israeli military commanders which clearly revealed Israel's intention to widen the area of what it calls the security zone."

Move

Maj. Gen. Youssi Peled, Israel's northern front commander, was quoted on Thursday as saying he was considering expanding the security zone.

Voice of the South Radio, the mouthpiece of the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army militia that operates in the zone, said Peled wanted to include five Druze villages in the strip.

The broadcast said the move was requested by unnamed leaders of the Mimes, Khalwat, Ain Senta, Kfir and Ain Ata villages located in the central Bekaa valley, a few miles north of the security zone.

The Muslim-run Voice of the Nation radio, based in West Beirut, broadcast statements issued in the five villages that denied making such a request or having contacts with the Israelis in the security zone.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dead man's letter

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, March 4, (AP): Two men have been arrested in the 1981 kidnapping and killing of an 11-year-old girl, linked to the crime by a third man who confessed in a letter mailed after his death, police said.

Christine Anderson was last seen getting into a car on Aug. 31, 1981. Her disappearance set off a widespread search in the Fort Lauderdale area, but no trace of her was found until her body was found in a field six months later.

On Dec. 16, a man named Frank Maxwell died in an automobile accident in Texas, and his brother complied with his request to mail a sealed letter to Fort Lauderdale police.

The letter confessed to Maxwell's involvement in Christine's disappearance and death, and linked two other men to the case, police said.

Evacuation

MOSCOW, March 4, (Reuters): Health authorities have urged evacuation of five more villages in the Ukraine because of persistent levels of radiation from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Tass reported.

The villages were not named but Tass said yesterday that three of them were in the Naddorodskiy district, about 50 km (30 miles) from Chernobyl, where a Soviet newspaper last month reported the birth of deformed farm animals.

Aryan Woodstock

NAPA, California, March 4, (Reuters): A judge refused to block a whites-only rock concert, but ruled that it could not have any music.

The concert, billed as an "Aryan Woodstock," was planned today and tomorrow on 70 acres (28 hectares) of private farmland near San Francisco, by former Ku Klux Klan leader Tom Metzger, leader of the white Aryan resistance group.

Napa county authorities had asked a judge to ban the meeting on grounds that it did not have a rock festival permit.

Czech spy

LONDON, March 4, (AP): A Czechoslovak spy, arrested last year while receiving a secret radio message from Prague, was convicted yesterday and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Ernest van Haeften, who resided in the Netherlands, was charged with spying for the Czechs, posed as a Dutch art dealer and participated in Jewish activist groups as a cover while sending information back to his superiors, prosecutors charged.

Following a five-day trial at the Old Bailey Central Criminal Court, a jury convicted Van Haeften on what judge Sir Simon Brown called "the most compelling evidence of a grave offense." Brown recommended Haeften be deported after serving his term.

United Airlines pilot

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4, (AP): The pilot who landed a jetliner after its side ripped open, ejecting nine passengers, said yesterday that after the shock he said a quick prayer for his passengers and went back to work.

Capt. David Cronin was in charge of United Airlines Flight 811 on its Feb. 24 non-stop flight from Honolulu to Auckland, New Zealand, when shortly after takeoff the Boeing 747's right forward cargo door and an adjoining 10-by-10 foot (3-by-3 metre) section of fuselage tore away.

Muslims offended ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Rushdie is put to death for blasphemy.

It said Britain should clarify its freedom of expression licence for defamation and insult and should dispel "ambiguities" by prosecuting Rushdie and banning the book.

Fatwa
In Kuwait, an Islamic legal committee met on Thursday at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to discuss the issue. A fatwa (religious ruling) is expected to be issued shortly.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has called for an end to the controversy over the book, saying there were real problems in the world that needed to be tackled.

Perez de Cuellar told reporters in Calcutta before leaving India for Bangladesh that freedom of speech should be respected by the Islamic world as well as the West. "We should have respect for all religions," he said.

Dramatics
The matter should be buried now. All of us should try to put it behind us and face the real problems of the world. We should not dramatise the issue," said Perez de Cuellar, who was in India to accept an award.

At least 21 people have been killed in protests over the book in India and Pakistan.

Bonn warns of new espionage threat

BONN, March 4, (AP): Officials are describing a West German computer spy ring that sold stolen data to the Soviets as an example of a new and dangerous dimension in international espionage.

"The illegal entry into hundreds of data systems is an extremely dangerous new threat," Federal Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann said yesterday.

"Governments and businesses must now become extremely vigilant," Zimmermann said. He spoke a day after officials said they had penetrated a ring which sold thousands of passwords and codes from military and research computers in the United States, Western Europe and Japan to Soviet intelligence agents.

Zimmermann, whose ministry is responsible for counterespionage and domestic intelligence gathering, called the ring's operations "a new dimension of Soviet bloc spy agencies."

Although he said it was too soon to assess the full extent of the damage, he added the investigation had "succeeded in dealing a major blow against the KGB Soviet secret service."

Juergen Schmid, a spokesman for the Federal Justice Ministry, called the incident "extremely serious, but not drastic."

"The hackers were able to gain entry, but failed to penetrate deep into the secret areas of the databanks," he said.

Security officials yesterday said three men were in custody and another five were under

investigation. Alexander Prechtel, a spokesman for the Federal Prosecutor's Office, said the suspects range in age from 25 to 35.

He said several were involved with illegal drugs, but did not elaborate.

Prechtel said police in Hanover arrested two hackers on "suspicion of espionage activities for an Eastern European intelligence agency."

Another suspect was arrested in West Berlin, he said.

A West German broadcast network, Norddeutsche Rundfunk, said on Thursday the computer networks infiltrated by the hackers included ones in the United States, Japan, Britain, France, Italy, Switzerland and West Germany.

Plane crash

ROANOKE, Virginia, March 4, (AP): A small plane crashed into a front yard in a suburban neighbourhood yesterday, killing at least one person aboard the plane and setting a house on fire, officials said.

"It looks like it hit in front of the house and cartwheeled," said Roanoke county fire chief Tommy Fuqua. "We've got parts thrown from one end of the block to the other end."

Three people in the house escaped, said Fuqua, but no one aboard the plane was thought to have survived.



Discover
gold

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

100150

Education conference in Kuwait

MINISTER of Higher Education and Acting Minister of Education, Dr Ali Al Shamlan issued a decision for holding the second educational conference on public education entitled "Education a Joint Responsibility."

The conference, which begins April 1 and lasts four days, is aimed at focussing on the educational process, students' problems and means for solving them.

The role of public and private institutions in the educational process will also be discussed.

The preparatory committee is chaired by Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khudari who is assisted by Assistant Undersecretary Abdul Mohsen Al Sa'ed, Director of Educational Research Centre Dr Issa Jassim and Director of Social Service Department Faiza Khalil Ibrahim.

Oil conference opens today

A CONFERENCE on the use of catalysts in the refining of oil will be held under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah from today until March 9, 1989 at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

The head of the Higher Conference Organising Committee, Dr Saad Akasha said that the hydrogen treatment of heavy oil residue plays an essential role in modern oil refinery techniques.

He further added that the conference aims at the exchange of knowledge on up to date techniques applied in the process, and ways to improve the effectiveness of catalysts.

The conference administration has already received many research papers and studies in this field, of which 29 papers were approved for introduction at the conference. He pointed that the conference will include lectures delivered by six scientists representing five countries.

Prizes awarded to divers

By Mahmoud Mural

THE Kuwait Sport Sea Club organised a festival last week to grant prizes awarded by HH the Amir to divers and members of committees that participated in the 3rd diving season held last summer.

A total of 144 youths and old divers competed in the activities which were aimed at memorialising diving activities in Kuwait before the oil era. The festival was held under the patronage of the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs, L. Hour for Youth Affairs, Abdul Rahman Al Mazroui. The participants in the diving season were received by HH the Amir last week.

The club also organised a sporting and marine festival on Friday evening under the patronage of Ahmad Governor Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem. The festival included several sporting and marine competitions and a race for sailboats.

Sea cargo statistics

THE Director of Handling Department at Shuwaik Port Fadhil Al Shatti was quoted in a local daily as saying that the port received about 779 ships last year unloading a cargo of 3,195,356 tons, outbound cargo amounted to 51,251 tons for the same period.

The department has been provided with the latest handling equipment as well as the administrative and technical expertise to overcome unloading delays. The unloading capacity of the port has been enhanced to 1,000 tons per day, per berth, Shatti said.

He added that the Public Ports Authority is organised to meet the expected increase in the transit movement after the Iraq-Iran ceasefire.

A symposium on this theme was organised by the General Civil Defence Department. The symposium shed light on security and safety measures to be instituted at all establishments to protect them from any natural and other non-natural dangers.

A local daily interviewed a number of security and safety officials at companies to highlight their role in providing security and safety. They expressed willingness to train and receive Kuwaiti youth at their departments.

The officials called upon Civil Defence authorities to enhance the awareness level of people on security and safety and called for the establishment of a specialised institution to train youth on security and safety measures.

Force
Falah Al Abdullah Al Abdul Ali, the director of the safety department at the Petrochemical Industries Company said that many people do not realise the

UN to maintain silence on Iran-Iraq talks

UNITED NATIONS, March 4, (Reuters): The United Nations will maintain silence on the substance of current Gulf peace talks until both sides have been consulted, a UN spokesman has said.

Spokesman Francois Giuliani said preparatory discussions with a delegation from Iran led by Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hossein Lavasani were completed yesterday and talks with the Iraqi side would probably begin next Wednesday.

"I am not going to tell you anything at all (on substance)," Giuliani said, adding, "not until after the Iraqi delegation has come and met."

Consultations
In the absence of Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on an Asian tour, his special representative Jan Eliasson, the chief delegate of Sweden, has been conducting consultations with the Iraqis, along with UN experts.

Giuliani said that among the subjects discussed were dates and venue for a further meeting with the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers in New York in late March.

Venue
UN sources said that Arden House, a conference centre in affluent Westchester County outside the city, was the likeliest venue and March 27 a possible date for meetings lasting perhaps 10 to 14 days.

When Foreign Ministers Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and Tariq Aziz of Iraq agreed with Perez de Cuellar last month to hold a further ministerial round in New York, the secretary-general said he wanted this to be away from the pressures of the UN headquarters.

Arden House is the former estate of the late W. Averell Harriman, a former Democratic governor of the state and long-time presidential adviser.

Former Lebanese presidents not invited to league committee meeting

Faction leaders to meet in Kuwait, March 17

KUWAIT, March 4, (KUNA): The Arab League Six-man Committee entrusted with resolving the Lebanese crisis will not invite former Lebanese presidents to participate in its third stage meeting in Kuwait on March 17, a local daily quoted political sources as saying.

The political sources, described by the daily as close to the committee, added that inviting former presidents would require special protocol arrangements that are not in harmony with the committee's nature.

Decision
The decision has been taken after consultations between the committee members, the sources said.

The committee, chaired by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, has invited Lebanese faction leaders for the meeting.

The Soviet Union meanwhile yesterday hailed the role of the Arab League Committee on Lebanon in trying to solve the 14-year-old Lebanese crisis.

The Soviet support for the Arab drive to solve the Lebanese crisis came during a meeting held early yesterday between Arab ambassadors accredited to Moscow and the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department head Vladimir Polyakov.

The meeting, it is understood, was an opportunity during which the two sides discussed the Soviet foreign minister's recent trip to Middle East countries, the constitutional crisis in Lebanon and Moscow's stance on it besides the Iraq-Iran conflict and means to move Gulf peace negotiations forward.

On the other hand, diplomatic sources told KUNA that Kuwait's Ambassador to Syria Ahmed Abdel Aziz Al Jassim will relay the invitations to Lebanese leaders.

They said that Ambassador Jassim will arrive in Beirut within a few days, most likely on Tuesday or Wednesday, adding that the ambassador will accompany Sheikh Sabah to Damascus tomorrow.

Sheikh Sabah will brief Syrian officials on the committee's activities and meetings with the various Lebanese parties and the outcome of these encounters.

The sources said that director of protocol at the Lebanese Foreign Ministry Assem Jaber contacted the Kuwaiti embassy in Damascus to set a date for conveying the invitations.

The committee, formed by the Arab League Jan 12, had met on its first round of talks in Tunis with parliament speaker Hussein Al Hussein, Lebanese Premier Salim Al Hoss and head of the military government Michel Aoun. Nearly one month later, the committee conferred with Lebanese Muslim and Christian spiritual leaders in Kuwait.

It is recalled that the Soviet foreign minister has met his Israeli counterpart Moshe Arens and suggested to him that Israel negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). But the Soviet offer, made during the encounter in Cairo last month, was turned down by the Israelis.

The sources said that Polyakov raised during the meeting with the Arab envoys the possibility of converting the Middle East area into a nuclear-free zone.

Lebanese parliamentarian hails league committee efforts

BEIRUT, March 4, (KUNA): A leading Lebanese parliamentarian has displayed optimism toward efforts of the six-man Arab committee, at a time top political and party officials here await their invitations to attend the third stage of the committee's talks to be held in Kuwait.

The parliament's vice speaker Dr Alber Mkhairat told reporters today that the Arab Good Offices committee, chaired by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, would meet success in reaching a solution to the 14-year-old ordeal.

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Agricultural authority established to benefit farmers, says official

RASHEED Al Nafisi, Chairman of Kuwait Farmers Union, in an interview with a local daily, was quoted as saying that the Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources had been established to benefit farmers.

He described the current relations between the union and the authority as cordial and added that they were striving together towards developing the agricultural sector in the country.

Credits
The union, who had visited Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij, chairman and director-general of the authority, had discussed the problems of shortage in agricultural equipment and the effect of frost on crops. He added that the authority had expressed a readiness towards indemnifying farmers whose crops had been affected by the frost.

Nafisi called for extending agricultural credits to farms established in the last two years

from the proceeds of the agricultural portfolio.

These farms constituted 30 per cent of the country's agricultural farms.

If we are to rely on agriculture as an important factor towards achieving food security, we have to set up a long term agricultural strategy, Nafisi said.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij has said that the authority aimed at the cultivation of wheat at Wafra and Abdali on a pilot basis. The authority, in co-operation with Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) carried out several experiments and, in the light of these, selected appropriate seeds, manure and other necessary equipment.

Wheat cultivation
To clarify the importance of wheat agriculture in realising food security several brochures were distributed to farmers.

About 260 hectares of wheat were cultivated in Wafra by 131 farmers, 245 hectares in Abdali,

by 97 farmers and about 150 hectares cultivated by the United Company for Agricultural Products. The authority intends to provide the farmers with the necessary combines before April, the official said.

Indemnity
Sheikh Ibrahim also said that the authority following the harvesting season will re-evaluate technically and economically the results of the experiment.

He added that cows and cattle owners will be entitled to an indemnity equivalent to 50 per cent value for the loss of cows and cattle through epidemics. Agricultural revenues constituted about one per cent of the country's total national income, while livestock and poultry resources represented 70 per cent of agriculture output. The incomes of Abdali farms amounted to KD1,008,869, while Wafra farms income had amounted to KD731,558 the official said.



The eight athletes who completed the run in an effort to save wildlife.

Border to border run successfully completed

By Lima Al Khalafawi

EIGHT athletes from Messilah Beach Hotel Kuwait finished their run in 15 hours and 18 minutes covering a distance of 246 kilometres across Kuwaiti borders from Abdali to Nuwaiseeb.

This run marks the first attempt to run the entire length of the country. The run which began at 12:00 midnight from Iraq's border at Abdali finished at the Saudi border at 3:18 pm on Friday, March 3.

The event was co-sponsored by Arab Times and Messilah Beach Hotel to focus on world conservation and pollution control related to wildlife and as an event to celebrate Kuwait's National Day.

Each member of the team ran a relay of three kilometres within

an average time of 10 minutes, according to Ray Jermy, the recreation manager of the Messilah Beach Hotel, an organiser of the run.

Speaking to Arab Times, Jermy said that at the first stage of the run, the team started very fast in the darkness and along the road was encouraged by drivers.

On following stages, participants showed perseverance despite the mid-day heat. The fatigue and exhaustion was offset by the support of cheering spectators.

On the last stage, participants were received at the Nuwaiseeb border by 60 clapping and cheering supporters.

Due to the success of the first attempt, participants said they will carry on this sport and hold another event next year, Jermy said.

Airlines and travel agents will collect airport fee from April 1

KUWAIT, March 4, (KUNA): Airline companies and travel agents have been directed to collect a KD2 airport exit fee when issuing air tickets. State Minister for Services Affairs, Issa Mohammed Al Mazidi said.

The new law becomes effective on April 1.

Speaking to a local daily, the official said that the Civil Aviation Authority will collect the exit fees from airline companies and transfer the revenues to the state treasury.

Travel agents and airline companies have been informed to mark tickets of passengers exempted by the law from payment of the exit fee, the official said.

Passengers who have purchased their tickets prior to this date and travel on or after April 1 will have to pay the fees at the airport.

Denial
The official denied that departure and arrival halls at the airport will be provided with electric conveyor belts for carrying passengers from and to the gates.

However, authorities may purchase battery operated wheelchairs for the use of old passengers and others who cannot walk.

A decision to this effect is being awaited after the next budget of



Issa Al Mazidi

the Civil Aviation Department.

Prices at Kuwait airport shopping area are lower than those compared to prices in Western countries. This is due to Kuwait levying only four per cent import duty.

The opening of duty-free shops at Kuwait International Airport has been put off pending the completion of new buildings.

Airlines companies carried 133,825 passengers who were outbound and accounted for 139,968 incoming travellers on 78 flights last January, Mazidi said.



Many religious ceremonies were held yesterday in Kuwait to mark Israa and Miraj, the ascension of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) to heaven. Khalid Al Jassir, minister of Arafat and Islamic Affairs seen addressing (left) a gathering at a mosque. (Photos by Mohammad Abbas)

Traffic accidents

A TOTAL of 21 people died as a result of traffic accidents in Kuwait during January, a local daily reported.

A total of 5,326 traffic cases were tried by Kuwait's traffic court during the same period.

Company said that Kuwaiti youth should be motivated to join the security and safety sectors through the encouragement of the government. He proposed the establishment of centres to train those who are interested.

Sabah Al Rais, head of Security and Safety Society said the society aims at enhancing resident traffic awareness through lectures and discussions. The society will publish a regular publication during its next season in this respect and has many plans to spread traffic awareness among youngsters, the official said.

Abdullah Al Shwai, head of the general security and safety services at Kuwait Flour Mills

difference between industrial security and citizen security. Kuwaitis occupy 60 per cent of the total security force at the company safety department and proved to be highly motivated for the job, he stated.

Generally speaking, the oil sector in Kuwait is still suffering from shortages in Kuwaiti manpower. A section of Kuwaiti youth refuse technical jobs due to a lack of motivation and direction during their educational stages.

Abdullah Al Shwai, head of the general security and safety services at Kuwait Flour Mills

light their role in providing security and safety. They expressed willingness to train and receive Kuwaiti youth at their departments.

The officials called upon Civil Defence authorities to enhance the awareness level of people on security and safety and called for the establishment of a specialised institution to train youth on security and safety measures.

Force
Falah Al Abdullah Al Abdul Ali, the director of the safety department at the Petrochemical Industries Company said that many people do not realise the

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Safety in sewers booklet published by Bahrain's Power and Water ministry

A NEW booklet has been published by the Ministry of Works, Power and Water for the protection and safety of its personnel working particularly in the sewage and drainage systems of the country.

"Safety in Sewers", the first of its kind, is a valuable and informative guide for both management and technicians who cope daily with possible hazardous and dangerous conditions that may be prevalent in the sewage and drainage systems of Bahrain.

The ministry, the country's largest, has been employing an increasing number of personnel over the years in view of the island's rapid expansion and development of the sewage and drainage systems.

Instructions
Ali Murad, assistant undersecretary for Public Works Affairs, states in a foreword that the book provides vital instructions on occupational health and safety for personal protection of staff.

The 74-page bilingual booklet, in English and Arabic, is simply and professionally illustrated in colour with safety warnings and instructions. The guideline covers such vital areas as conditions of sewers, dangerous liquids, confined spaces, hygiene, general safety and protective clothing, proper use of tools and road safety.

The new book has been published by Occupational Health and Safety Division of the department of administration and personnel, Public Works Affairs. Editor is Bob McClenaghan.

"Safety in Sewers" has been designed and illustrated by a well known Sri Lankan water-colour artist, based in Bahrain, Tissa Hewamontiri.

Arab Saudi Bank invests 22 per cent in new company

ARAB Saudi Bank's total assets stood at \$125.3 million at Dec 31, 1988, an increase of 19 per cent over the previous year's figure. Mohammed Hassan, the bank's director and general manager, announced this week.

The year 1988 produced a net operating profit of \$2.8 million and after provisions of \$1.9 million — an increase of 44 per cent compared to the 1987 figure. Hassan added that cash dividends of six per cent share capital are approved.

Corporation
The executive also announced that ASB is investing 22 per cent in International Investment Corporation (IIC), the founder shareholders of which are Arab Saudi Bank along with other companies and individuals from the Gulf, the United Kingdom and Egypt. A meeting of the founder shareholders of IIC was held on Feb 21, in Bahrain of which it was decided the authorised capital will be \$20 million, out of which over \$5 million is subscribed by the founder shareholders.

Hassan and Mowafi, the promoters and Hafiz Zuhbi of Al Mahmood & Zuhbi (legal consultants) were appointed to oversee the registration of the new company.

Hawkers highlight aspects of their working life

HAWKERS in Kuwait insist on displaying their goods on sidewalks and in front of ministries and companies where most passers-by are seen regularly. They lay their goods on floors and attract customers with their low prices and wide range of goods despite government laws which prohibit them from doing so.

A local daily interviewed a section of street hawkers to highlight the aspects of their trade.

They stated that it is a way to earn some money through a very cheap portable market (shop).

Selling
One of the hawkers working in this profession for more than six months says that he goes around houses during mornings and in the afternoon he displays his goods at one of the busy sidewalks.

He added that he usually sells KD2 worth of goods daily and that Municipality inspectors are not very strict with them. He

added that such officials understand their plight as they know that hawkers need the money. The hawker said that he had not changed his spot for a long time so as to be recognised by regular customers.

Difficult
Another hawker says that it is a very difficult job. "We stay outside our houses all day and sometimes underneath the strong sun for small profits." He feels that he is always chased by the Municipality due to the many times he has been caught.

One of the customers said that hawkers prices are much cheaper than those of the market and hoped that the Municipality will turn a blind eye to this profession.

On the other hand, Ahmad Abdul Latif said that municipality inspectors should be more strict towards hawkers, because it is an uncivilised phenomenon.

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GOING PLACES



Indian Shivrani, one of the world's shortest men, talks to a friend on the phone as the Jumbo Circus prepares to wind up their show in Kuwait. The last few performances will be held this week at Mahraf Fairgrounds.

Unni Menon to come to Kuwait

KERALA singers and actors will present a musical show at Kuwait's Andalus Cinema on April 6 and 7.

Unni Menon, one of the leading male playback singers, will be the main attraction. He will be accompanied by singers Radhika Tilak and Sunanda Raja. Film stars Sobhana and

Vineth will also take part in the show.

Unni Menon began his singing career in 1983 and is said to be a protégé of singer Yesudas. He has so far recorded 200 songs in four Indian languages — Malayalam, Tamil, Kannada and Hindi. He also sings devotional songs.

Kalandar opens KALPAK

THE Kerala Arts and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (KALPAK) was formally inaugurated on Friday by TV newscaster Sulaiman Kalandar.

The opening was followed by a variety show. Pandaram Mohamed Bashir presided and Varghese Paradayil welcomed guests. KALPAK president K.P. Balakrishnan, Indian embassy First Secretary Varghese Giree and Arab Times Business Editor M.C. Bose spoke on the occasion.

The ladies wing of KALPAK was inaugurated by Mrs. Kunjumma Daniel of the Indian School, Salmiya.



A day out for Indians

GAYATHRI ARTS, an Indian group in Kuwait, recently held a day-long social event at the Indian embassy premises to celebrate the Nehru Centenary. On offer was spicy south Indian food. While the adults sampled food delights, the youngsters took a ride on one of the mechanical toys provided by the organisers. Hundreds of people attended the social event. Pictures show (above): women serving food to guests; (below) children taking a ride on a mechanical toy.



Above: (L-R): Mrs Daniel, Kalandar, Bashir, Varghese and Bose pictured at the opening. Left: KALPAK members taking part in the variety show.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.25 Cartoon serial
- 10.25 Asma'a Allah Al Husna: religious programme on the occasion of Isra Wal Meraj
- 12.15 Variety Show
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 1.30 English Feature Film: North of Yukon
- 3.30 Min Fadlak Wa Ahsanak: Arabic feature, starring Salah Zulfikar, Huda Sultan, Hisham Saleem, Faq Kamal
- 5.15 Tum Tek and Children
- 5.30 Laila Min Alf Laila Wa Laila
- 6.00 Ibn Attiya: historical serial
- 7.05 Ibtihal Deeni
- 7.15 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nabt: poetry session
- 8.00 Al Hefazah: information film
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Lulu Wa Asdaaf: Arabic serial, starring Omar Al Harairi, Mustafa Fahmi, Madiha



Tom Selleck plays Magnum, tonight on KTV 2.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Owl: a show for children
- 7.00 Scientific Eye: "River of Rock"
- 7.30 The Pursuit of Happiness: "Uphill Skiing"
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Magnum: "A Girl Named Sue." Private eye Magnum is involved in intrigue after taking a case of murder. Starring: Tom Selleck
- 9.40 Dive to Adventure: nature
- 10.00 What's Happening Now: "Rodger's Big Break." Comedy
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "Onassis: the Richest Man in the World." Part one
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine: "D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown"



What's Happening Now brings more comedy, tonight on KTV 2.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Composer of the Month
- 0100 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: 5th Kiron's Kingdom; 12th Perestroika; 19th Nightmare World; 26th Science Fiction
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The Picture of Dorian Gray
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 0300 World News
- 09 News About Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Screenplay
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 Stag Gospel
- 45 Worldbrief
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Financial Review
- 45 Words of Faith
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 45 Book Choice
- 50 Waveguide
- 0800 World News
- 09 Words of Faith
- 15 The Pleasure of Your Words
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Nature Now
- 30 Financial Review
- 39 Book Choice
- 45 Short Story
- 1600 News Summary followed by Science in Action (ex 26th Urbi et Orbi)
- 30 In Praise of God
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Composer of the Month
- 1200 News Summary (ex 12th) followed by Play of the Week: 5th Kiron's Kingdom; 12th Perestroika; 19th Nightmare World; 26th Science Fiction
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Sports Roundup
- 45 Worldbrief
- 1400 News Summary followed by 5th and 12th Phone-In; 19th and 26th Papa Wojtyla
- 30 Anything Goes (ex 5th and

- 12th Phone-In (contd)
- 1500 Newsdesk
- 15 International Recital (ex 26th Concert Hall)
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Colours
- 45 Letter from America
- 1700 World News
- 09 Book Choice
- 15 Jazz for the Asking
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsdesk
- 30 In Praise of God
- 1900 News Summary followed by Here's Humphrey
- 15 Time Will Tell
- 2000 World News
- 09 Worldbrief
- 25 Words of Faith
- 30 My Music
- 2100 News Summary followed by Sports Roundup
- 15 The Pleasure of Your Words
- 2200 Newsdesk
- 09 Book Choice
- 15 Letter from America
- 30 5th and 12th Phone-In; 19th and 26th Papa Wojtyla

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behereen Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Ek Khayal Ek Geet
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Geet Kahani
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Alamiya Pharmacy
Jandol Bldg, Fahd Al Salem St.
Al Muntasar Pharmacy
Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nigra
Al Andalus Pharmacy
Zaid Sarhan Bldg, Tunis St.

Salmiya and Rumaithiya
Al Fida Pharmacy
Jarallah Bldg, Khansa St.
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Sada Pharmacy
Makkah St.
Jeeb Al Shiyoukh
Al Wahran Pharmacy
Block 14, Main St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Commercial Market

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Red Army Concert
Al Salmiya
People's theatre performance
Al Hamra
Al Khatem (Arabic)
Starring: Nelli, Samir Sabri, Jalal Sharqawi
Drive-In
Mo'allimah Samah (Arabic)
Starring: Madiha Kamel, Ezzat Alaili, Muna Abdul Ghani
Al Firdous
Sone Ka Dil Lohe Ke Haath (Hindi)
Starring: Rajendra Kumar, Vidya Sinha
Fahadheel Open-air
Paap Ko Jala Kar Raakh Kar Doonga (Hindi)

Al Fahadheel
Beetle Juice
Al Jahra
Bo-Raham (Hindi)
Granada
Sila (Hindi)
Solsabikhat
Non-Stop Trouble with My Double
Al Hesa
Aankhen (Hindi)
Almadi Drive-In
All of Me

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.49 am
Zuhr	11.59
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	5.51
Isha	7.07

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery
UNTIL March 19: Recent paintings by British water colour artist Patricia Mills will be shown at the Ghadir Gallery, Salmiya Complex, mezzanine, Gate 5, daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Sultan Gallery
AN exhibition of paintings by Bangladeshi artist Mounirul Islam is open at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St., daily except Friday from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

Kuwait Science Museum
DAILY: 5 pm onwards: Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

MUSIC

Red Army Choir
MARCH 5: The Red Army Choir and dance ensemble will perform at the Andalus Cinema, presenting music, dance and ballet with a selec-

tion of folk dances, Cossack and Armenian, plus choral singing. Tickets available at the Andalus Box-Office.

Beat Concert
MARCH 31: A beat concert featuring the Perfect Strangers will be held from 10 am at the Sharq Co-operative Hall. For details call Anthony D'Souza or Arjun Gehi. Tel: 2631826 or 2663693.

Sounds Great
A REVUE directed by Ken Winston will be staged from March 31 to April 4 at the UAS, Salwa. A casting meeting will be held at the Sunshine School, Salwa, on March 4, 8 pm. Actors, actresses, singers and dancers required. For details ring 5740256/7 or 5625316.

EXHIBITION

Bengali Book Show
BENGALI books written by Bangladeshis are still on show at the Bangladesh embassy in Jabriya. More titles are likely to be displayed this week.

Higher Education in Britain
MARCH 11-15: The British Council presents an exhibition on British Higher Education. It will feature information on all aspects of higher education in Britain. A group of senior staff from Scottish universities will attend the exhibition. For details contact Education Advisor Kate Harries. Tel: 2520067.

Modern Kuwait
UNTIL March 8: The Kuwait's University's Art and Culture Department is holding a photographic exhibition on "Modern Kuwait" at the College of Commerce, Adeliya.

SOCIAL
German-Speaking Cultural Association
MARCH 5: Sunday, 10 am.

The association holds its regular monthly coffee morning at the Holiday Inn Hotel. All German-speaking ladies are welcome.

Gala Dinner
MARCH 9: The Great Ormond Street Hospital Gala Dinner will be held at 8 pm. For details call 4831339; 5393151.

British Tea Party
MARCH 10: The British Tea Party/animal fun day will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel from midday with fun stalls, animal-painting competition, children's super-star contest, soccer and basketball. Leo's magic and other events. For details phone 5624111 ext. 751/739.

Masquerade Ball
MARCH 10: 6 pm. KAPILKU Masquerade Ball at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Andalus Club. Awards for best costume, best mask, best couple. ParLOUR games and raffle contest are added attractions. Buffet dinner. Entrance: KD. 5.

Contact
MARCH 11: The next meeting of the ladies information group will be held at 10 am at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Please note change of venue. For details call 3720197; 4874513; 5388105.

Hair Science Class
MARCH 17: A one-day hair science class will be held at Holiday Inn Hotel, 2 to 6 pm. Certificate of attendance will be given. Entrance free for all KAPILKU members. For details call Ojje Olor — 5634200.

SPORTS
Tivim Centre
MARCH 4/5: The Tivim Centre will hold its second annual one-day seven-a-side football festival at Al Soor

Grounds. This will be followed by their second inter-village nine-a-side football tournament, beginning April 8. For details contact organisers.

Carrom Tournament
MARCH 5: A memorial carrom tournament will be held in Farwaniya. To take part call Fernandes: 2423690, 9 am to 12.30 pm or contact Babit at Al Soor ground on Friday morning.

Fun Run
MARCH 17: 30 km fun run for teams of at Messilah Beach Hotel. Commences at 10 am. Registration is strictly limited. For details call Hugh McAree — 5326368 or Jon Evans — 5339867.

Danish Darts Tournament
MARCH 17: Daniella invites all Danes to take part in a darts tournament. It will be held from 4 pm at Gazelle Club. Please register before March 8. Tel: Annette — 3723413; Inglise 3715637.

Aerobic/Yoga/Swimming
AT Kuwait International Hotel: Aerobics for ladies from 6 to 7 pm every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday.
Yoga every Sunday and Tuesday from 8 pm to 9 pm and on Friday from 10.30 am to 11.30 am.
Swimming starts March 6-22, Saturdays, Mondays, Wednesdays. For details contact the hotel's recreation manager Colin Hall.

HOTELS
At the SAS
BISTRETTO: A new Italian restaurant has been opened at the hotel. A selection of Italian dishes are offered in addition to international and local specialities prepared by Chef Peter D. Zobrist.
Al Boom: the floating restaurant will offer a different

speciality every two days as well as the Al Boom menu of charcoal grills.

Peacock Room: offers a wide variety of Chinese cuisine introduced by Chef Von Kwee Kiong.

The Clock Drive-In restaurant serves fast foods and daily specials.

At the Kuwait Plaza
Al DALLAH coffee shop: breakfast buffet, lunch and dinner; also set menu; mini-business lunch.

At the Ramada
Al BENDAR Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.
Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arzz Band.

The Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery; train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 pm to 11 pm.

At the Continental
GARDENIA: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food. Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch. Dabbar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday; a la carte dinner.

At Messilah Beach
MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: Open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go."

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WE are inclined to believe those we do not know, because they never have deceived us — Samuel Johnson, English writer (1709-1784).

Riots in Venezuela

IMF inspires fierce emotions

By Keith Grant

MEXICO CITY, (Reuters): Riots in Venezuela inspired by new austerity measures show the International Monetary Fund continues to inspire fierce emotions in Latin America, political analysts and foreign bankers said on Tuesday.

Venezuela, which has resisted fund economic recipes for six years, was due on Tuesday to sign a letter of intent with the IMF. Related austerity measures this week sparked street protests in which up to 100 people were killed and hundreds injured.

"These measures had been put off for too long and it is not fair to blame the IMF," said one US banker with several years' experience in Venezuela.

Venezuelan Finance Minister Eglez Ibarra de Blanco and Central Bank President Pedro Tinoco are in Washington to sign the letter of intent with the IMF for a loan expected to total \$1.3 billion. They also plan talks with private banks on restructuring Venezuela's \$32-billion foreign debt.

Crisis
From the outset of the debt crisis in 1982, the IMF has been vilified by leftist Latin American politicians as a source of suffering in debtor countries. Feeling boiled over in the Dominican Republic and Brazil and scores died in food riots in 1985 and 1986.

In the past couple of years the attacks have abated as the fund, under new managing director Michel Camdessus, has adopted a more sympathetic approach towards debtors.

But the rioting in several Venezuelan cities, which political observers said was well organised, sets foreign debt firmly back on centre stage as a potential time bomb ticking beneath Latin American economies.

Venezuelan President Carlos Perez came to power after December elections promising to ease the debt burden, but soon he about-faced by announcing an austerity package much more sweeping than any previously experienced in the country.

He revealed higher petrol prices, public sector austerity measures to reduce the fiscal deficit, and a plan to unify the exchange rate for Venezuela's currency, now quoted in the free market at 38 to the dollar against

the official rate of 14.50. Growing social pressures in debtor countries, fanned by the impact of rising interest rates on economies and little apparent progress in global debt strategy, could yet lead to drastic confrontational measures in Third World countries.

"Existing recipes are becoming unmanageable. Either we cease paying as a result of negotiations or we declare a unilateral moratorium," a columnist in the pro-government Mexican newspaper Excelsior said on Tuesday.

The Venezuelan measures are not tough by Latin American standards — petrol still costs the equivalent of only 70 cents a gallon — but for Venezuelans used to South America's highest living standard, the measures came as a dose of cold water.

The result has been the worst public disturbances since General Marcos Perez Jimenez was overthrown in 1958, ushering in Venezuela's democratic era.

Calm
Apart from a 1960s insurgency that lacked mass support, Venezuela has enjoyed social calm and a 1970s oil bonanza.

"The goal has been to avoid conflict at all costs. Money has permitted this and mistrust of mechanisms that might have managed the conflicts and safeguarded democracy has justified it," Development Minister Moises Naim said in a recent book.

In 1988, the last year of President Jaime Lusinchi's government, imports were allowed to rise to their highest level since 1983 while reserves dwindled.

Lusinchi must take much of the blame for passing on a legacy of renewed inflation and an artificial exchange rate," the US banker said. "Venezuelans lived in a fairytale land, and now it has caught up with them."

Loans
Though foreign bankers see an IMF programme as less crucial to debtor nation rescue packages than previously, they still insist on agreement with the fund as a condition for new loans.

Mexico is likely to have to accept an IMF programme in a restructuring of its debt. Only Colombia at present is negotiating private bank loans without a formal IMF seal of approval, but it is doing so with difficulty.

Bush spotlights new US role in Asia

By Helen Thomas

WASHINGTON, (UPI): President Bush's Asian swing spotlighted the new US role as a witness rather than as a leader of dramatic political changes under way in the region.

Bush, making his first extended overseas journey as President, just showed the flag. With his administration still getting organised, he had no new policies to unveil or cards to play in the three countries he visited — Japan, China and South Korea — which are definitely on the move.

Bush was constantly dogged by bad news from Washington about the falling fortunes of his nomination of John Tower to be Secretary of Defence. It often overshadowed events abroad designed for American TV cameras and dominated questioning by reporters.

It was almost as though Bush never set foot in the Far East. That would never have happened to Ronald Reagan.

Schedule
Bush's exhausting schedule was in marked contrast to his predecessor, probably intentionally. Bush visited three countries in five days, crossing back and forth through 14 time zones before returning to Washington on Monday. Reagan seemed to be gone forever on a similar trip to Asia five years ago as he built in time to recuperate from jet lag.

Despite the breakneck pace of the trip, its lasting impact on American foreign policy was questionable.

For Bush, the most memorable stop was China, where he had served as chief US envoy in 1974-75. He was greeted as an old, well-loved friend.

But even that warm atmosphere was marred by a flap over

human rights, with the government preventing Fang Lihui, a leading dissident, from attending a dinner Bush gave. The Chinese rebuked the United States over the invitation and lectured Bush to stay out of Chinese affairs.

The low-key Bush reaction did nothing to enhance his human rights image.

Bush applauded leaders in China and South Korea for moves toward democracy, but sensing they were riding the wave of the future, they told the United States to mind its own business.

His lectures to Tokyo and Seoul for a better economic shake in trade relations appeared to go nowhere.

True, Bush played a gracious and forgiving role in attending the funeral of Emperor Hirohito, a symbolic gesture that pleased the Japanese.

But the hard bargaining was postponed, especially over Japan's efforts to enter the field of producing sophisticated military aircraft by co-producing a new fighter plane, the FSX, with the United States.

Secretary of State James Baker promised to support the project, but some administration officials are strongly opposed.

Speech
In South Korea, Bush gave a hard-hitting speech to the divided National Assembly against trade barriers in a country where the United States has 42,000 troops. The response was tepid and there were anti-American demonstrations in the streets.

In China, Bush saw striking changes. Creeping capitalism, attempts at modernisation and more colourful dress were a dramatic contrast to the days of Mao Tse-tung and hardline communism when Bush lived in Beijing.

Agreements designed to help Americans

THERE has been a great deal of panicky talk in Washington about the threat the European Single Market will pose to American business in 1992. But the experts here also admit that the big American companies have relatively little to fear, that it will be the smaller ones which represent only fifteen to twenty per cent of the total involved which are likely to suffer. Europe will become a tough competitor, but one American industry is strong enough to compete with.

The real threat to the United States industrial and financial position in the world, these experts warn, is Japan. However much American producers are doing to improve their efficiency, their technical competence and their ability to compete price-wise, they are well behind the Japanese.

There exist a number of confidential agreements the Japanese have been forced to enter into by the United States which are designed to help American producers to remain competitive. One of the most important among those agreements concern semiconductors.

The Japanese have agreed, for instance, to increase the price for semiconductors by as much as fifty per cent under pressure from American competitors who assume that it will enable them to compete with Japanese products.

Profits

What the Americans failed to foresee was that these price increases the Japanese agreed to would vastly increase their profits and thus make them even more competitive with American companies. Even more humiliating is the fact that the Japanese, aware of American anti-trust legislation, asked to be exempt from anti-trust limitations when they agreed to a unified price structure and obtained, however reluctantly, the necessary dispensations.

American manufacturers have

made considerable advances in improving their products, especially the automobile manufacturers, but, according to the experts, there is little expectation that they will be able to reach the quality of the Japanese products. All this does not bode well for the future and for future American prosperity.

Up to now there has been relatively little Japanese investment in the Soviet Union, relatively little export made with Moscow. Relations remain strained because of the Soviet occupation of the Kurile Islands. But recent American visitors to these islands are reporting that the Japanese inhabitants and the Soviet occupiers seem to be getting along surprisingly well and that business activities between the two are improving.

Improve

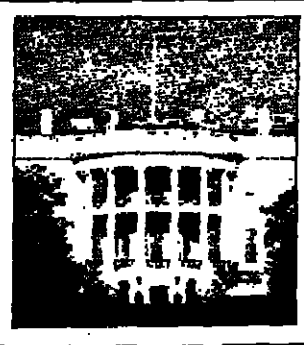
There is a growing concern here that as relations between Japan and the Soviet Union improve, and they are likely to, the Japanese will be able to improve as Gorbachev is softening Soviet foreign relations all around the globe, Japanese investments in the Soviet Union will grow.

Shevardnadze's ten day tour of the Middle East aroused a great deal of attention here, especially since several of his objectives suit American policy-makers. For the first time there is a greater recognition of the similarities of the two superpowers' interests in the Middle East, hence a less confrontational attitude between the two. Both, for instance, share a common concern about the presence of ballistic missiles in the area and the dangers they represent to peace. Israel and Saudi Arabia, for instance, have missiles with a range that could include targets on Soviet

territory. Israel, India and Pakistan have nuclear capabilities. Libya is in the process of building chemical weapons. But neither the Soviets nor the Americans have any good ideas of what to do about this growth of dangerous arms accumulations in the region. Together, though, they have the means to intimidate these countries and even if nothing is as yet actively done about discussing these dangers, improving relations between the two superpowers though, it is hoped here might lead to closer consultation about how to deal with this threat.

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



territory. Israel, India and Pakistan have nuclear capabilities. Libya is in the process of building chemical weapons. But neither the Soviets nor the Americans have any good ideas of what to do about this growth of dangerous arms accumulations in the region. Together, though, they have the means to intimidate these countries and even if nothing is as yet actively done about discussing these dangers, improving relations between the two superpowers though, it is hoped here might lead to closer consultation about how to deal with this threat.

Negotiations

What is altogether new are the efforts by the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Yasser Arafat to persuade the United States and Israel that, having accepted the existence of Israel as a state, they are now ready to enter into direct negotiations with the Israeli government.

They believe that, as they have been telling a group of American Middle Eastern experts led by William Quaint of the Brookings Institution, with the unarmoured intifada rebellion, the new US-Soviet detente and other crises such as those in Afghanistan and Angola yielding to negotiated solutions, the Israeli-Palestinian

one could be resolved too.

American officials are anxious to encourage this new attitude of the PLO, but they remain sceptical how reliable the change in fact is, and to what extent, if at all, Arafat has control over the extremists in his ranks. Of course, the more the PLO advocates direct negotiations, the more the Israelis get scared of the prospects of such negotiations. The Likud Party gains in last week's local elections confirm that these fears have their political repercussions.

American experts, however believe, that with the intifada continuing unabated and showing no signs of eroding, with the attrition it causes in Israeli society and with the economic situations deteriorating Israel will have to enter into direct negotiations sooner rather than later.

Discussion

The Bush administration is currently hard at work trying to develop a new initiative in the Israeli-Arab peace process. It will include more searching talks than have taken place so far with the PLO. Its present demand for a two-state solution, an independent Palestinian state living side-by-side with Israel is not a basis on which negotiations can be expected to make progress.

Informal discussions between unofficial members of the two sides have begun, but these are more feelers than negotiations, more an attempt to find out whether the PLO really means what it is claiming in such public exchanges as occurred with the Quant group, which included a Jewish member who did not incur the wrath of the Israelis nor the hostility of the PLO people.

In fact, Arafat said that he was prepared to meet with any Israeli and lay all the issues on the table. What remained unclear was whether the intifada demonstrations would continue even after peace negotiations begin. What remained clear, though, was that any alternative to PLO leadership will be rejected by the PLO.

The role of the international conference, if one can be convened, Arafat's aides said, would not be a goal in itself, only a means to an end. Arafat apparently also said that the PLO does not want to go it alone, but would like to take along other Arab states, including Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and that such an arrangement be discussed at a kind of Arab summit.

Majority

Regarding the United States role in the peace process, there is now a feeling, shared by the PLO leadership, that the US does not hold a large majority of the cards — a minority, though, still holds that view — and that the preferable procedure would be direct Israeli-PLO negotiations. The next two years, the PLO people suggested, should aim at building the peace process through unofficial secret meetings with Israelis to create a basis on which these negotiations could be conducted.

President George Bush, I understand, in the earlier days of

the Reagan administration, argued that to persuade Israel to accept a solution that involves a Palestinian state would need an American security guarantee ensuring Israel's borders and its survival. Such a guarantee does not exist today, at least not formally, but it can be assumed that even without a formal guarantee the United States would come to Israel's aid if it could not ensure its own survival in war.

Changing

All this still sounds like something that is still far in the future. But American officials agree that the situation in the Middle East is changing perceptively and that the time has come to develop new policies that take the latest dramatic changes in outlook into consideration. No doubt, the differences are still vast and cannot be swept under the carpet, but one thing is becoming clear: Israel cannot preserve the status quo in the West Bank and Gaza indefinitely, and, furthermore, this is still an area that is conflict-prone and could once again become a dangerous battlefield.

American officials who had been struggling with the difficult problem of how to regularise relations with Iran are much relieved that the Ayatollah Khomeini has, at least for the time being, relieved them of the task and that the death edict he issued against Salman Rushdie has led to a quite far-reaching economic boycott by European Economic Community and Japan that is bound to severely hurt Iran's war-torn economy. It means that the \$2 billion in credits Iran was seeking from West Germany and higher oil purchases from Japan will be delayed and that such economic boycotts can be effectively used to achieve certain political objectives.



Soviet magazine questions communists' monopoly on power

Party role under scrutiny

By John-Thor Dahlburg

MOSCOW, (AP): As Soviets prepare for their first national multi-national multi-candidate elections, one state-run magazine has scathingly criticised the Communist Party, associating it with a "political lie" that has deceived the citizenry for generations.

In a groundbreaking article, the literary monthly Novy Mir also questions the rationale of the 20 million-member party's legal monopoly on power, enshrined by the 1977 constitution.

tion, and says genuine democracy is impossible until the party permits open dissent in its ranks.

Even in the franker atmosphere fostered by President Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign for "glasnost," or greater openness, such harsh criticism of Communist Party practices in an official Soviet publication would have recently seemed impossible.

The article, by widely known sociologist Igor M. Kiyamkin, also hints at the central paradox of Gorbachev's blueprint for political change, by noting that Soviet "democratisation" is tak-

ing place in a system where one party has declared itself society's sole legitimate ruler.

Kiyamkin does not openly call for the creation of a multi-party system, but that seems the inescapable conclusion many will draw from his criticism of anti-democratic practices he says the Communist Party has engaged in starting from the days of Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin.

"The major reason for lies starting to dominate society was that the majority, whatever it was composed of, was fated to limit inter-party democracy and violate the rights of the minority. This was discovered even when Lenin was still alive," Kiyamkin wrote.

"The political lie leads to catastrophe when some organisation or group of people has a full monopoly on power and information, where nobody can catch them deceiving others, or to put it more simply — when there is no democracy," he said.

The article, printed in the February edition of Novy Mir, seems certain to fuel debate about the party's role in political institutions being created this year as part of Gorbachev's plan to further delineate the responsibilities of party and government.

In March, Soviet voters are to elect a new 2,550-seat Council of People's Deputies that will choose a more active Supreme Soviet parliament and the country's president, the post now held by Gorbachev, who is also party general secretary.

Kiyamkin said the political reforms, passed by the Supreme Soviet in December, were flawed by measures "which even the most vivid imagination cannot call democratic."

Violence in east Beirut

By Samia Nakhoul

BEIRUT, (Reuters): All Lebanese mother Um Tony wanted was to have her three sons by her side as she lived out her final years in a quiet village far from the mayhem of Beirut.

But her dream was shattered last month when one of her sons was killed in inter-Christian fighting in east Beirut.

Other mothers are still awaiting news of sons missing since a ceasefire took effect on Feb 19 in the fighting for power between Christian groups which pitted brother against brother.

Um Tony — the name means 'mother of Tony', a description she insisted on for protection — told Reuters she had dreamed of returning to her family's village in northern Lebanon.

There she and her husband would sit before the hearth with their sons, swapping jokes and stories.

"I wanted to return with all my children...but I've lost one of them now, and the others are not the same anymore," said Um Tony, 55.

Agony

A young man who took part in the fighting between the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia and Christian units of the regular Army told of the agony of facing his own brother across the barricades.

"My hands and knees were trembling, tears were streaming down my face. I was reciting prayers as I was fighting," said the man, who refused to be identified.

"I had no nerves anymore, I couldn't eat or drink. I had orders to fire and I knew that my brother was fighting on the opposite side."

By Joseph de Rienzo

JAKARTA, (Reuters): A messy end to Kampuchean talks in Jakarta has left many fearing that peace is as far away as ever before for that troubled land.

Kampuchians as well as foreigners who have made careers studying the country as diplomats, scholars or journalists, wondered aloud during the course of the past week's Jakarta peace talks whether long-term peace was possible at all.

"Even if a United Nations peacekeeping force stayed for a couple of years, within a few years there would be a blood-bath," a Western diplomat said. "It's a civilisation that, with some interruptions, has been in decline since the 1300s. We may be seeing a society that is no longer capable of nationhood," said the diplomat, who staunchly opposes Vietnam's troop presence there.

Some diplomats have warned there is a risk the tiny Asian country could end up as several smaller states.

Compromise

Phnom Penh and the three guerrilla factions who hold Kampuchea's United Nations seat made no significant compromise at the Jakarta talks. Prince Norodom Sihanouk,

Fighting turns dreams to ashes

"I told my officer: 'You can shoot me if you want but I will not fire at my brother. How can I face my mother and tell her I killed my brother?'"

His mother, a war widow, said: "If he had come home after killing his brother I would have killed him then killed myself."

"When my sons joined the Army and the Lebanese Forces to defend Lebanon I never thought they would some day fight and kill each other," she said.

Beg

"If I had known what the future had in store, I would have begged on the streets or worked as a cleaner rather than have to live to see them fight one another," she said.

"But no one knew that the allies of yesterday would become today's enemies."

The 12,000-strong LF has always posed a challenge to the Army. But they joined forces last September to foil the election of a head of state to succeed President Amin Gemayel.

Most residents of the Christian enclave had believed the power-sharing between the LF and predominantly Christian Army units would continue indefinitely.

Only external, usually Muslim, enemies were to be feared, until the week of battles last month which killed at least 59 people and wounded more than 130.

Until then, sending sons into the LF and the Army provided

thousands of Christian families with some income at little real risk.

Many men preferred to join the LF for better pay and free medical, educational and social assistance for family members. The military, which split during the war, was strapped for funds.

But the Army attracted thousands of recruits with its image as the professional defender of the Christians. Many believed it would ultimately play a national role to bring peace to Lebanon.

Recruitment

The most fertile ground for militia recruitment was among the hundreds of thousands of families made refugees by the war.

In the days after the ceasefire, militiamen and relatives gathered at Mar Elias Church in east Beirut to pray for the return of sons, brothers and husbands still missing.

"Dear God, please protect him, don't deprive me of him, bring him back safely," muttered a distraught woman in black.

Many mothers used to worry that their sons would turn to drugs, always in plentiful supply in Lebanon. Now all they care about is that their children survive.

Um Hanna, a refugee who used to work as a baker in a remote village northeast of Beirut, has heard nothing of her four sons for a fortnight. Two served with the LF and two fought with the Army.

Kampuchians seen unable to end feuds

championed by resistance backers as the man fit to unify Kampuchea, stayed away.

Southeast Asian states and the major powers have put pressure on the warring parties to end war and political upheavals that have ripped the country since Sihanouk's ouster by a military coup in 1970.

But the talks ended here with only vague directions from the belligerents over when, where and how to resume the peace process, which has been spurred by the signs of Sino-Soviet normalisation.

Demand

The talks centred on the monitoring of a Vietnamese troop withdrawal and the end of foreign military aid to the guerrillas.

The Kampuchean factions are expected to have talks among themselves in the near future to discuss how to eventually share power and hold general elections before Jakarta peace talks resume in July.

"It looks like everything might go on hold until after the Sino-Soviet summit in May," a resi-

stance delegate said. China had demanded Vietnam cease military and political involvement in Kampuchea as a condition for Beijing mending ties with Moscow.

Soviet-backed Vietnam says it will pull out its troops backing the Phnom Penh government by September in return for an end to foreign military support to guerrillas.

It says its troops, numbered at 50,000 by Hanoi and up to 70,000 by Washington, will be out by December, 1990, no matter what because Phnom Penh's leaders, many of whom were installed by Hanoi after its 1978 invasion, will be able to protect themselves.

With Vietnam's help and frequent military incursions, Phnom Penh has built up its forces and population base over most of the country. However, its "people's war" strategy to defeat hardened insurgents is weakest in sparsely populated areas in mountains and near the long Thai border — traditional Khmer Rouge guerrilla strongholds.

150000

Barbara Bush: coping well in her 29th home

America's new first lady is getting rave reviews for her unpretentiousness, symbolised by her white hair and fake pearls. How does she account for her popularity?

By Charlotte Saikowski

WASHINGTON: Not surprisingly, Barbara Bush talks about literacy from the vantage point of her rich family life. One reason for the high literacy rate in the United States, she suggests, is a failure of parents to parent.

The fact that so many mothers work outside the home creates a conflict, the First Lady admits, but that is a "fact of life" to be dealt with.

"Our own daughter is going to work full-time," Barbara tells reporters. "She's still going to have a struggle. But she's still going to have to sit with her arm around her children and read to them and listen to them and care about them."

Listening. Barbara, the mother of five and grandmother of 11, emphasizes the point.

"I think a lot of our problems are because people don't listen to our children. And it's not always easy — they're not always so brilliant that you want to spend hours with them, but it's very important to listen," she says.

For years Barbara has worked to eradicate illiteracy, sitting on the boards of such groups as Reading is Fundamental and participating in literacy-promotion events. Soon she will establish a private, grant-awarding foundation called the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.

Work

In her work in the last year or two, she says, "everything came back to family." Visiting Head Start projects, she found that more than half of the mothers were functionally illiterate. "So what chance did the little kid have, if the mother couldn't encourage them to read or couldn't help them?" Welfare mothers, she says, could take classes or receive job training while their children were in Head Start.

Barbara also blames the school system for overburdening

teachers. "We expect our teachers to be mother and father and church — to teach our children morals and some things that maybe we should be doing ourselves," she says.

Gracious, relaxed, informal, Barbara easily parries questions from a small group of journalists in the handsome west sitting room in the White House second floor family residence. Her dog Millie, a springer spaniel, sits contentedly at her side, tail wagging when Barbara tells her guests that puppies may be on the way.

"I asked George how he's going to feel about no Camp David for six weeks and he said, 'What do you mean?' and I said, 'Well, the dog can't go,'" Barbara relates. "I think he'll figure a way," she adds with a quick smile.

No stranger to beautiful houses, Barbara nonetheless indicates she is smitten by her 29th home. "It's so much more beautiful than I thought," she says enthusiastically. "The food is the most beautiful food you've ever laid your eyes on. Today, I had lunch off of (Woodrow) Wilson's plates, sometimes I have lunch off of Lincoln's plates...."

Style

"Looking at the Monet over your head or the Cezanne over there... I'm surprised by the enormous beauty and I owe Nancy Reagan enormous thanks... for a lot of the beauty here. Everything glitters because she really put her mind to it."

When it comes to political opinions, Barbara routinely defers to her husband. But she politely tolerates a few "news" queries. Does she have any question about John Tower's character or ability to be secretary of defence?

"Am I loyal to John Tower? — you bet I am," she responds without hesitation. "He's a wonderful man and probably as qualified as anybody in the country for secretary of defence."



The no-frills First Lady of America, Barbara Bush.

What about Oliver North? "I think he's innocent until proven guilty," she says tersely.

As they begin their tenure at the White House, the Bushes have set a style that contrasts markedly with the Reagan years. The resplendent home on Penn-

sylvania Avenue will be open to gaggles of grandchildren and the countless friends and acquaintances the Bushes have cultivated over many years of public life.

On a typical evening at home, says Barbara, the President comes about 6 pm. They both do

some work before dinner and often one of the children or friends or staff are over. "We like people and (George) likes to share," Barbara says. The pair have dinner alone and work for a while before walking the dog.

But the Bushes are hardly homebodies. Their often spontaneous visits to local restaurants to dine with friends have added to the concerns of the Secret Service. And Barbara intends to be out and about.

"I'm going to go out so much that you're going to be saying, 'Ho-hum, there's Mrs. Bush, out again,'" she says. "I'm going to go to museums. I'm going to walk. I'm going to go out with friends. I'm just going to do things... I think it's very important you get out."

"Out" also means her activities on behalf of a variety of causes — from promoting literacy to visiting shelters for the homeless. Asked what she would like to be remembered for after four or eight years in the White House, Barbara says, "I hope people will say 'She cared; she worked hard for lots of causes.'"

But her sense of a "cause," she indicates, echoes her husband's approach of encouraging people to be "one of those thousand points of light."

"I get a lot of letters saying 'I want to help with your programme,'" Barbara explains. But her response these days is to say, "If you want to get on my programme, if you'll just go out and help the neighbour who needs help, you'll be on my programme."

Another contrast with the Reagans is church-going. Episcopalians, the Bushes often attend St John's Church near the White House. But they also make it a point to visit other churches.

Religion is something the Bushes prefer not to talk about publicly. But, when asked how important it is in her life, Barbara responds that all her children went to Sunday School and "it's automatic."

Interview

"Maybe that isn't good, but it's a part of our life," she remarks. "We pray, we love God, they're all intermixed. I couldn't divide my family and my religion."

After the interview Barbara gives the reporters a tour of the family residence. "We eat by can-



The entire Bush clan at the family's summer home in Maine (above). At left: the newly-married Bushes in 1945, and the grandparent Bushes in 1968.

delight," she comments as the group admires the dining room. "Isn't it beautiful?"

She shows off the Yellow Room, where heads of state are entertained (with a view of the South Lawn and the Jefferson Memorial in the distance), the Queen's bedroom, the grandchildren's bedroom, a secret stairway to the third floor, and the Lincoln bedroom, which contains the only dated and signed copy of the Gettysburg Address. "Lincoln never slept here," she

explains like a seasoned tour guide.

There are unlikely to be many changes, Barbara indicates. The biggest one is conversion of the Monroe room into an "office for George." It once served as the office for the 14th US President Franklin Pierce, Barbara Pierce Bush's great-great-uncle.

"So far, the nation's First Lady is getting rave reviews for her unpretentiousness, symbolized by her white hair and fake pearls."

How does she account for her popularity?

"I think people don't feel threatened by me," she replies. "Nobody is going to hold me up to their wife or their husband, or I think people know I'm fair and I like children and I adore my husband... I think people think it's nice to think you really love your husband and your children and your dog."

"I don't even mind cats," she adds wryly.

First lady on other first ladies

BARBARA BUSH has something kindly to say about virtually all previous First Ladies. She likes Pat Nixon "very much" and also Betty Ford.

Ladybird Johnson? "It's hard to say 'favourite,' but she certainly was," says Barbara. "Ladybird was here when we came to Congress and Ladybird brought us all upstairs."

Barbara has "enormous respect for Nancy Reagan" and is grateful to her for beautifying the

White House. Nancy left "a very nice note and a lovely orchid" for her successor.

Eleanor Roosevelt apparently was too much an activist to suit Barbara Bush. "I hope I would never get into as much political stuff as Eleanor did, but she was gutsy...." says today's First Lady.

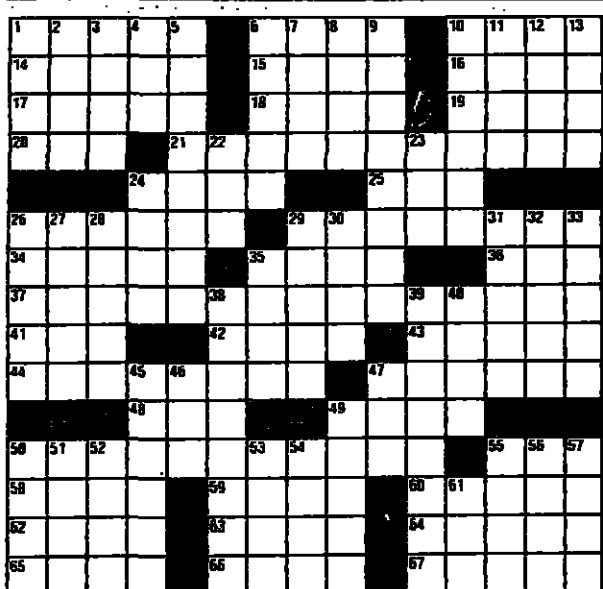
Recently the press quoted Barbara as saying that she grew up in a household that "really detested" Eleanor. The press, she says,

did not tell the end of the story: Barbara's mother, who "never changed her mind once," changed her opinion of Eleanor after attending a reception in her honour.

"Now don't write that up unless you put the last part in because her grandchildren are friends of mine," Barbara cautions reporters, "and I've been suffering over that (story)."

—C.S.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 "Call Me —"
 - 6 Arabian robes
 - 10 House, in Seville
 - 14 — acid
 - 15 Finished
 - 16 Viva voce
 - 17 Wanderer
 - 18 Humdinger
 - 19 Liana, e.g.
 - 20 Supplement, with "out"
 - 21 Exertion
 - 24 Cheese tray item
 - 25 Musician's need
 - 28 True
 - 29 Connecting devices
 - 34 "Last but not —"
 - 35 Bridge
 - 36 Farrow of tims
 - 37 Working energetically
 - 41 Chowd down
 - 42 Buiding wings
 - 43 Hagar's spouse
 - 44 In a wretched manner
 - 47 Touch gently
 - 48 Conquistadors' quest
 - 49 — Mankan
 - 50 Go all out
 - 55 Lessen
 - 58 Gander's call
 - 59 Actress Moran
 - 60 Hawkins or Thompson
 - 62 Poker stake
 - 63 1492 caravel
 - 64 Out of the way
 - 65 Bender
 - 66 Angry, with "off"
 - 67 Type of bug or buffalo
- DOWN**
- 1 Hair found in

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

AMORE PIELIS SPA
CHAPER IDIOT HEW
THELOVEDONE ARA
SARI TRAN VALOR
ACAD DEPEND
AIR PASADENA
LOIRE ANIL TAME
LOVETHYNEIGHBOR
STEM ARUG LYONS
ANTELOPE RAE
PIANDAS ANTI
STIEP SINAP AGES
AIR LOVEMACHINE
LIA ELEMI TONIC
MAL SENOR DEEDS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q 8 7
♥ 7 6 4 2
♦ K 3
♣ A Q 5

EAST
♠ 10 4 3
♥ 3
♦ 10 9 7 5 4
♣ 9 8 7 6

SOUTH
♠ A 6
♥ A J 10 8 5
♦ A Q J
♣ K J 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♦ Pass
6 ♥ Pass 6 ♣ Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣

The only place that makes money without advertising is the U.S. Mint. Bridge players would do well to follow that lead. A circumspect silence can prove rewarding in many situations.

North-South bid easily to their good heart slam. West rudely shattered the calm that prevailed with his double. He led his fourth-best spade, and it did not take declarer long to decide that possession of the

guarded king-queen of trumps was all that West could have for his double.

With nothing to guide him, declarer's percentage play in the trump suit would have been to take two finesses; normally, that would have offered a 3-to-1 chance of bringing in the trump suit with only one loser. After the double declarer ruled out that line, as well as cashing the ace of trumps in an attempt to drop an honor. He unearthed an alternative that would permit him to succeed if West had a very specific distribution—four spades and three cards in every other suit.

Declarer won the lead in hand, crossed to the king of spades and ruffed a spade. Next came three rounds of clubs, ending in dummy, and another spade ruff. Declarer had now reduced his trumps to the same trump length that he hoped West held.

Three rounds of diamonds completed the stripping process. Declarer ruffed the third diamond on the table and down to nothing but trumps, led a heart to his ten. West won the queen, but he was then forced to lead from his king of trumps into declarer's ace-jack tenace.

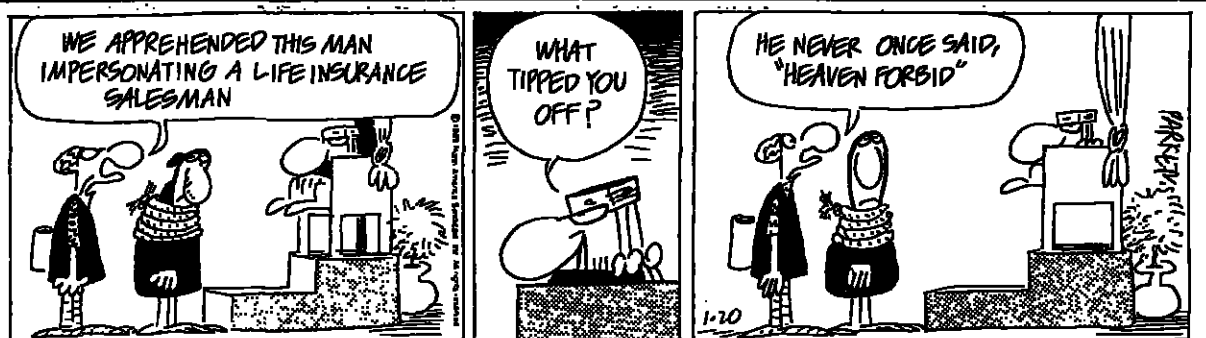
A clear case of loose lips sinking a defense.



"They're specially bred for long walks."

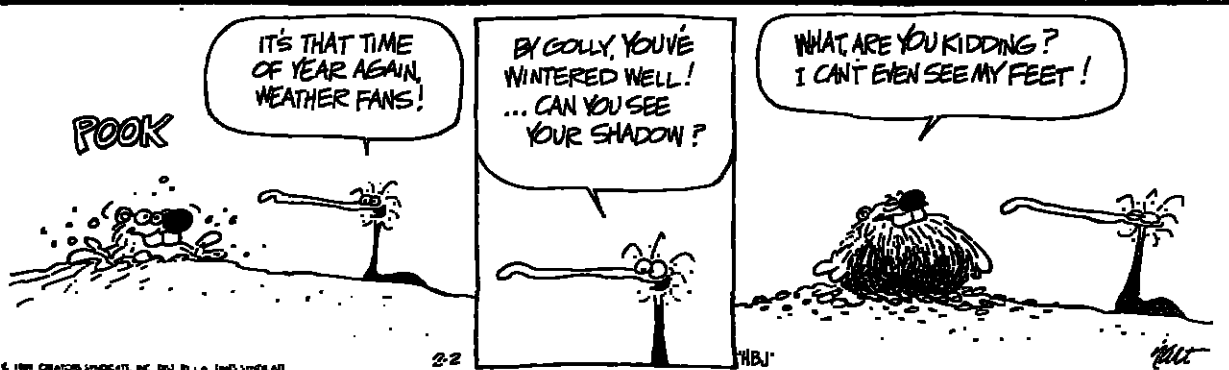
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

The Moon's influence will help you to do what you set out to do. You will be able to make up for lost time. You should not let love grow stale. Be hopeful.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should not get furious about some failing of yours, instead try calmly to remedy it. You will be able to mend your fences. Avoid getting into any kind of argument. Be forgiving.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will not feel at your best and should try to take it easy. Make sure you eat a balanced diet with sufficient vitamins. Do not do anything too out of the ordinary. Be respectful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

The more favourable influence of the Sun and of the Moon will help you to sort things out. You should try to take your mind off work for the day. And make sure you get sufficient exercise. Be reliable.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

If you keep making the same mistake try to find out why instead of just getting frustrated. A lot depends on you, circumstances are quite favourable. You should avoid any kind of exaggeration. Be generous.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should not try to lay down the law, but you should set a good example. Make sure you do not give up at the slightest sign of an obstacle. Do keep your options open. Be sincere.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

Do not allow yourself to become frustrated because time is short, just get on with what you are doing. Also do try to take your mind off work for the day. Consider the positive elements and do not dwell on those that are negative. Be resourceful.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Make sure you are eating a balanced diet and not too much of any one thing. You will be able to create a more congenial atmosphere. Make quite sure you do not break any speed limits. Be kind.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

There are likely to be traffic delays, so allow a little more time to get there. You will not always be in the best of moods and should try to keep away from controversy. A little more patience will help you to keep calm. Be considerate.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Do not expect to have everything all your own way. Take extra care when dealing with anything to do with electricity. Do not do anything that might be injurious to your health. Be moderate.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

The influence of Mercury coupled with that of the Moon will help you to keep your eyes wide open. And you should also try to listen a little more attentively. Avoid jumping to conclusions. Be punctual.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

Not everything will go your way, but being angry about it will not make things better. You should do all you can to sort your ideas out. Avoid eating or drinking more than you know is good for you. Be observant.

SNIPPETS

Policemen being investigated for murder

TWO Manila policemen are being investigated in connection with the killing of an Egyptian and his Filipino companion in Sta. Cruz, Manila the other day, police said. Patrolmen Eliseo Ching and Salvador Sico, both detailed as guards at the Manila city jail, were invited for questioning in connection with the killing of Yehia Abu Rawach Mohammed, 42, and Esperanza Viterbo, 23, along Quezon Blvd. A police officer who spoke on condition he is not identified said both Ching and Sico were found positive of gunpowder burns when examined.

Extradition treaty between Philippines, Switzerland

THE Philippines and Switzerland are set to sign an extradition treaty soon, Justice Undersecretary Eduardo Montenegro and Hans-Peter Wyssmann, head of the extradition section of the Federal Department of Justice and Police drafted the text of the treaty which will be submitted to their respective governments for approval.

'Sikyus' picket US embassy

OVER 100 security guards of the United States embassy walked out of their jobs and staged a picket in front of the embassy along Roxas boulevard to denounce American officials for alleged unfair labour practices. The guards said the US embassy has failed to grant them overtime pay and incentive bonus. The guards were employees of A. Prime Security Services commissioned to provide security for the embassy premises.

Smuggled goods seized

MORE than P10 million worth of smuggled goods were seized by the Bureau of Customs, including a 40-foot container van loaded with highly dutiable electronic goods imported from Japan. Officials said the goods had been placed under "hold order" since its arrival last Feb 4 after its named consignees disowned the goods. Some 98 rolls of textile materials from China valued at P120,000 were also confiscated at the Manila International Container Port (MIPC).

Will Aquino relent and allow Marcos home for mother's funeral?

Dona Josefa — still awaiting burial

By Eileen Guerrero

BATAK, Philippines, (AP): In the house where Ferdinand Marcos grew up, the memorabilia of his life are on display: furnishings, newspaper clippings, war medals — and his mother, still unburied 10 months after her death.

Josefa Edralin-Marcos died on May 4 in Manila at age 95. But the family postponed burial indefinitely in hopes that President Corason Aquino would relent and allow the deceased president to come home for the funeral.

Aquino refuses to allow the ailing, 71-year-old Marcos to return, citing national security. Marcos has lived in Hawaii since he was ousted in a popular uprising three years ago.

Edralin-Marcos' body lies in an open, emerald-green casket on the ground floor of the Marcos family home, still maintained as a museum in honour of the deceased president.

Dressed She is dressed in a white embroidered gown that covers every inch of flesh except her heavily made-up face. A slip of paper, resting on the glass over her face, marks the number of days since her death. Relatives say a mortician visits every two months to inject embalming fluid.

Gone are the large crowds that turned out to view "Dona Josefa" when the body was brought last year from Manila to this town in Ilocos Norte



The body of Dona Josefa lies in state awaiting burial. A curious mix of tourists, relatives, Marcos loyalists and religious fanatics still gather daily to view the body.

province, 240 miles (345 kilometres) north of the capital. National newspapers in Manila, as well as most of the country's 58 million people, have all but forgotten the wake except for occasional jokes in the capital about "Marcos' Mummy."

But a curious mix of tourists, relatives, die-hard Marcos loyalists and religious fanatics still

gather daily to view the body. They offer prayers not only for the soul of the former school teacher, but for the return of Marcos. "Personally, I want her to be buried so her soul can rest," said Vice-Mayor Rodolfo Yadao, a member of Marcos' New Society Movement Party. "She looks so fresh," Marcos' niece, Cynthia Poblete-Chan, said as she gazed at her grandmother's body. "We're just waiting for their (Marcos') word" when to bury her in the family plot at the eastern edge of this town of about 40,000 people.

Banners with slogans such as "the whole Filipino nation is condoling" hang on the walls of the family home, along with pic-

tures of Marcos, his wife, Imelda, and other mementos of his life.

Three times a day, a small group of Marcos supporters gathers around the bier to pray the rosary. On a recent visit, about five loyalists were praying.

Local residents have been joined recently by members of a religious sect, the Alpha-Omega, who believe that the return of Marcos is part of some sort of divine plan for the Philippines.

Members

Cult members, dressed in red and blue shirts printed with the words Alpha-Omega, keep an almost daily watch by the bier. When Poblete-Chan appeared recently, cult members knelt before her and kissed her hand reverently.

Teresita Maglahus, a spokeswoman for the group, said the cultists followed Edralin-Marcos' body here after their leader, known only as "Mama Rose," received a "vision from God."

"Lola (Edralin-Marcos) needs prayers for her soul," Maglahus said. "Nothing can stop God and the return of Marcos. If people only knew who Marcos is, they would kneel down in front of him."

In a town where Marcos is still revered as a favourite son, local officials say the wake for Dona Josefa could go on indefinitely until the former president himself gives the word for burial.

Masses were said in several churches in the Batak area on Feb 15, Edralin-Marcos' 96th birthday, local residents said.

No surrender feelers from Honasan — Cory

PRESIDENT Aquino has said that she still has to verify reports about the alleged surrender feelers of cashed-in Army officer Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan before she could comment on the matters.

Reports going the rounds last week said Honasan, the leader of the August 1987 putsch, was ready to respond to the President's call for him to surrender before peace talks with rightist extremists could start.

"I would like to know first of all, if indeed, he wants to surrender," Aquino told newsmen in an "ambush" interview.

She added that Honasan should write to her, to Defence Secretary Fidel V. Ramos or to Gen. Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief, to confirm his desire to surrender.

Surrender

Talks of a Honasan surrender surfaced when the President announced that the government was open to peace talks with rightist extremists, if Honasan surrendered first.

The Defence Department,



Colonel "Gringo" Honasan.

according to Ramos, will continue to support the government's initiative for reconciliation with enemies of the state.

However, he said, the rebels must lay down their arms first. "There can only be one armed force in this country, and that is the Armed Forces of the Philippines," he said.

In the spirit of reconciliation, Ramos urged that efforts be exerted to attract the extreme right and the extreme left to the mainstream of the Armed Forces and society.

"For those who did not show

respect for the Constitution and our laws during the past two years who are now outside this mainstream, let us exert our best efforts so that they can come back to the centre and be given another opportunity for a respectable, productive and constructive role in the future of our country," Ramos said.

Ramos spoke at the wreath-laying ceremonies at the Libingan ng mga Bayani at Fort Bonifacio at the start of the celebrations marking the third anniversary of the EDSA revolt.

Ramos said the real heroes of EDSA are the civilians who continue to perform their assigned duties without monetary considerations, the soldiers who are in the frontlines and the veterans of past wars who remain loyal to the flag.

Ramos did not mention former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Honasan and other officers of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement who, with him, spearheaded the revolt that toppled Ferdinand Marcos and catapulted Aquino to the presidency.

FM's luxury yacht now a 'Love Boat'

By Ninfa Rueda

RPS Ang Pangulo, former President Marcos' sequestered yacht, will become a local version of Love Boat for tourists starting next month, according to Tourism Secretary Jose Antonio Gonzales.

Gonzales said the Philippine Tourism Authority and the Navy have signed an agreement authorising the Honolulu-based luxury liner Windjammer to operate for the government the 2,700-ton yacht.

It was stipulated that the yacht offer to tourists dinner-cruising.

It will start operating by the end of March.

Jobs: the good news ... and the bad

FIRST the good news: The government has been able to provide more Filipinos with jobs. But the bad news is: Wages still haven't caught up with the rise in prices.

In a report presented to President Aquino yesterday, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said the government had made significant strides in 1988 and could look forward to doing better this year.

But the report said that while it is true that more people are employed today, the problem of underemployment has hardly been addressed. The underemployment rate was estimated at 32.6 per cent in 1988.

The government's countryside development programme will focus on greater production in the rural areas and the generation of more employment.

Diplomat alleges US interference in foreign office

By Cynthia D. Balana

A SENIOR diplomat has claimed that the United States had been interfering with the affairs of the Philippines foreign office and had been responsible for the ouster of ambassadors believed to be responsible for the strengthening of Philippine-Soviet relations.

Ambassador Romeo Fernandez, who was once assigned to Moscow, made the disclosure during a press conference called by the family and friends of the embattled Philippine Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Alejandro Melchor Jr. Fernandez was one of those invited to ventilate on the Melchor case.

In related developments:

● The Senate committee of foreign affairs headed by Sen. Leticia Ramos-Shahani is set to investigate what she called the "arbitrary ouster" of Melchor and the charges of irregularities hurled against him;

● Vice-President Salvador Laurel, the former foreign secretary, said he had approved the construction of the Tamaraw Club in the Philippine embassy in Moscow and had been responsible for the appointment of two counsellors to the Moscow embassy;

● The family of Melchor appealed anew to President Aquino to allow him to come home to clear his name before her state visit to Moscow in August this year.

Fernandez, who himself was in trouble following his assignment to Moscow, said proof of US intervention in the country's foreign affairs was the secret arrangement made by the officials of Department of Foreign Affairs with the US Embassy in Manila on the issuance of visas to Soviet

nationals. He said that before a visa is issued to a Soviet citizen, the DFA must first get "a security clearance" from the Central Intelligence Agency through the US embassy in Manila.

US embassy spokesman Jerry Huchel refused to comment on Fernandez's expose.

Fernandez said he became familiar with secret arrangement when he was still the charge d'affaires of the Moscow embassy from 1982 to 1988. Fernandez was recalled last year by the BFA for marrying Tatiana Iachina, suspected to be a Soviet spy, without permission from the home office.

The board accused Fernandez of being an accomplice of Iachina based on a report of the National Intelligence Co-ordinating Council.

But the NICA could not produce the alleged report when Fernandez asked for it, he said. He had accused the CIA of engineering his recall.

Fernandez recalled that when several Soviet officials were invited by the Philippine government to attend an international conference, he had to make a request to the home office before issuing the visas.

But the DFA referred the matter to the American embassy here for "security clearance." The clearance to issue the visas to Soviet participants, he said, was granted only after the CIA had confirmed that the applicants had no derogatory records. As a result, the Soviets arrived when the conference was about to end.

"Why do we have to hold an international conference and invite the Soviets to participate and then make it dependent upon a foreign power to decide whether these people will be allowed to enter the Philippines or not?" asked Fernandez.

Corrupt officers linked to drug traffickers

THE Narcotics Command (NARCOM) and the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) have pointed to the political, police and military connections of drug syndicates as the reasons behind the worsening drug addiction problem in the country.

Appearing before the house sub-committee on standards and regulations, deputy commander of the narcotics command Col. Federico De La Cruz, and DDB executive director Dr. Manuel Supnet said that unless corrupt government officials and law enforcers are weeded out of service the problem of drug addiction will further deteriorate.

They also pointed out that drug abuse has become a major threat to national security, next to the insurgency considering that drug syndicates are now

heavily armed and financed. Because of their strong political connections, they easily escape prosecution, they said.

Cruz and Supnet proposed that the reimposition of the death penalty on drug pushers, financiers, and even cultivators of marijuana can help curb drug addiction.

Activities

Drug pushing should be included among the heinous crime punishable by death in a proposed measure by the house of representatives pushing capital punishment, they said.

Although the activities of the drug syndicates are known to law enforcers, De La Cruz said, they could not just make arrests because of the politicians, police and military men behind the operations.

Sing-Alike contest and Bagong Kampeon

'Copy cats' delight crowd

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (KAPILKU) held their 'Sing-Alike' and 'Bagong Kampeon' contest on Friday at the Al Andalus club at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

Baladeer Milano Mendez who sang "Buhay" imitating Rico J. won the hearts of the judges and won the top prize with an excellent overall mark of 94.25 per cent. Stylish Kernel Singh who rendered a song "Two Less Lonely People in the World" was the second best singer for the day with a score of 91.5 per cent, while Medel Cruz, a Tom Jones clone, sang "I'll Never Fall in Love Again" came third with 86.0 per cent.

In the Bagong Kampeon, the versatile Milite Domingo, with her rendition of "Home" almost captured a perfect score and ran away with the highest award for

the night with a top mark of 96 per cent. Leonardo Lapira, who was only 0.25 per cent behind the winner won the second best performance for the night with his song "I Write This Song" by Barry Manilow.

Vic Buenaventura with "My Way" came third with 92.5 per cent.

The top three singers for both categories received valuable prizes from Phil Supreme (Al Najdain Trading Co.), the sponsor of the contest.

More than 140 attended the first KAPILKU night, including the Consul-General of the Philippine embassy, Fortunato D. Obiena.

Manny Inserto, KAPILKU president expressed his thanks to the participants as well as the guests who came to watch the singing contest, and the sponsor,

Phil Supreme. VP social and cultural affairs, Sarah Macarimbang was the chairman of this project. Gatekeepers were "vice-president" Jimmy Tadana, AVP Willy Sabay, VP Homer Mesina, secretary Rosale Austria, Helen Inserto, Malou Tadana and Jenny Brosoto.

Rod Cerezo and AVP Lulu Alejo were the emcees, while Bong Pagutayao was the production director.

A special number was performed by The Electropoppers composed of Henry Co., manager, Reji S., Daniel R., Mohammed Fakher, Mohammed Muthoor, Hussain Sayed and Ahmed Suphiam.

The board of judges comprised Jonas Gonzalez, Rufina Garcia, Albert Ariola and Rolly Mendoza.



Milano Mendez, winner of the Sing-Alike contest receives his prize from the sponsor.

KAPILKU's new projects

Masquerade Ball

A GRAND Masquerade Ball organised by KAPILKU will be held on Friday, March 10, at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Al Andalus at 6.30 pm.

This is the first of its kind in the history of KAPILKU and promises to be an extraordinary event as all the guests will be required to wear a mask when entering the hotel.

The mask will be removed only at the end of the evening. Special awards will be given for the best costume, best masks and best couples. Entrance is KDS.000 with buffet dinner.

Parlour games and raffle contests will be an added attraction. The Masquerade Ball is sponsored by Al Widad International Exchange (Door to Door remittances to the Philippines).

Hair beauty class

DO you want to maintain the beauty of your hair? Or get some vital tips on falling hair? You are invited to attend a one-day 'Hair Science' class on March 17 at the Holiday Inn auditorium from

2.00 to 6.00 pm.

Luz Mesenas, an expert in this field will cover the following subjects; hair trimming and cutting, perming, hair dying and hot oil massage. She will also introduce you to new innovations in various hair conditioning treatments to prevent baldness.

This additional knowledge will help a lot of KAPILKU members for their own benefits and can be a passport for a better future, says Ojie Olor, vice-president for welfare and special projects who is the chairman of this project. He can be contacted on tel. 5634200. Jojo Medrano is the vice-chairman.

A certificate of attendance will be awarded to all successful participants. The class is free for KAPILKU members.



Jojo Medrano, Ojie Olor

The EDSA revolution: has it lost its meaning?

By Marivi R. Octaviano

THREE years have already slipped away since the 1986 EDSA revolution. The time when Filipino men, women, and children flooded the long stretch of EDSA to protect Enrile, Ramos and their men from possible attacks by Marcos' forces. It was the time when people from all walks of life, including priests and nuns, were gathered together by a revolution in which the supposed enemies were seen as fellow Filipinos commanding respect.

A revolution that suddenly and miraculously transformed into a fiesta-carnival as more people trooped to EDSA, bringing with them provisions not for combat but for a family picnic. Love pervaded the air as civilians embraced the battle-hardened soldiers. Gone were the pickpockets, the snatchers and muggers conspicuously present in such big crowds. It was a revolution where prayers, singing and storytelling were heard instead of bombings and gunshots. A revolution of peace rather than violence, won by "people power" uniquely Filipino.

Scenario

That was the scenario of the EDSA revolution. Still vividly fresh in the minds of Filipinos who have actively participated in achieving its victory. But ask them what the EDSA revolution means now, and majority would just talk about it as history.

Has the EDSA revolution lost its impact on our people now? Did the three years that passed seem long enough for people to regard it as something of a distant

past?

So many things have happened since then. Even Enrile and Honasan who were among the brains behind the EDSA revolution have disassociated themselves from the government. A lot of people may have been frustrated or disillusioned with the way things are now. That's because after all the excitement and inspiration brought about by the success of the revolution have died down, our people have gone back to their old ways. The Filipino attitude of 'kanya-kanya' or 'kami-kami' have prevailed again, and unity eludes us now.

Note

It is sad to note that our people have never learned. Or have they not understood the lessons the EDSA revolution left behind? What happened during those four days of February may not be possible again. If another revolution takes place, it may not be that "peaceful" anymore. The Filipinos should not hope for another "miracle." God has intervened then and has already shown the way to peace and happiness through the power of faith, prayers, respect for fellow Filipinos, commitment and self-sacrifice: the true spirit of the EDSA revolution.

United

Had the Filipinos who trooped to EDSA been faithless, they wouldn't have had the courage to face the tanks and armadas of the soldiers. They would have probably rushed to EDSA with icecreams or bolos instead of crucifixes, rosaries, and images of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It

was sheer faith that made them believe then and wouldn't allow any bloodshed.

They became united by prayers. And it was their implications that filled the air instead of gunshots. Even if they had to sit and sleep on the dusty roads for four seemingly endless days, they did not complain. They learned to share whatever little food they had, to both strangers and foes. For once, the Filipino people learned what humility and justice meant. And how they showed it, perhaps, unconsciously then.

There was no bloodshed because they saw each other as Filipinos and not as people divided by their leaders. They knew there was no need to kill each other. It was this respect for the other's life that made every Filipino in EDSA committed to protecting his fellowmen to the extent of willingly sacrificing himself.

Through the EDSA revolution, God spoke in our hearts. And the message He wanted us to heed is written in the Holy Scripture, 2 Chronicle, 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

If only our people would digest God's message, they would understand what EDSA revolution really meant. And only then will they appreciate why they have to keep it alive in their hearts.

سكرا منى

NASA's Venus probe to help solve age-old question — is man alone in the galaxy?

No-one believes life could exist on Venus, with surface temperatures of 400°C, yet, its geology may contain an all-important clue to the earth's uniqueness. The spacecraft Magellan, to be launched on April 28, will probe this mystery.

By Adrian Berry

WITH American space shuttles flying once more, the exploration of the planets is about to undergo a long-awaited and vigorous revival.

An ambitious NASA programme of new missions promises vastly to increase knowledge of the solar system and prepare it for ultimate colonisation.

But most exciting will be a probe to Venus which will help to solve the age-old question of whether man is alone in the galaxy.

The spacecraft Magellan, to be launched by the shuttle Atlantis on April 28, will use radar to make detailed maps of the surface of that red-hot world.

Riddle

"The most important goal of this mission," said Dr Mostafa Chahine, chief scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena, California, "will be to discover whether Venus has tectonic plates like the Earth or whether its surface is a single crust."

While no-one believes life could exist on Venus, with surface temperatures of 400°C its geology may contain an all-important clue to the mystery of why the Earth appears to be a

unique world among billions of solar systems.

The key to this riddle is moving tectonic plates. Familiar on this planet as the causes of earthquakes, they are believed also to be the main reason for the rise not only of life but intelligence.

Continuous venting of gases from the Earth's interior as the plates shifted produced a breathable atmosphere of oxygen and nitrogen, while the constant movement of the continents made our world's surface partly land and partly water.

This enabled our amphibian ancestors to evolve in the sea and then colonise the land. And the splitting of the continents' isolated animal species in different places so they could evolve separately. Advanced life did not have to arise in these conditions, but only in these conditions could it have done so.

"We have seen no sign of intelligent life elsewhere in the galaxy," said Dr Jerome Pearson, of the US Air Force Flight Dynamics Laboratory at Dayton, Ohio, the author of a bold new theory to explain this absence. "And so we must suspect life does not exist."

But if this is so, it would suggest that something about the Earth must be unique. I believe it is the presence of our very large Moon, a satellite far larger in

proportion to its parent world than the moon of any other known planet, whose tidal drag over billions of years has created moving tectonic plates and continental drift.

"Venus has no moons, and consequently no strong exterior tidal influences like the Earth. Venus should therefore be without tectonic plates. If this prediction proves correct, it greatly strengthens the case for the uniqueness of man. If not, the mystery of the absence of little green men will become more baffling than ever."

On October 12, America's Galileo spacecraft will set off for Jupiter on a six-year mission never before attempted — to release a probe that will descend by parachute into the hostile Jovian atmosphere of hydrogen, ammonia and methane.

Bets

Astronomers are taking bets on how many miles the probe will be able to descend before it is crumpled like tinfoil by the mounting pressure of gases. It should reveal some extraordinary information before its destruction.

Jupiter is a monster among worlds. If it were only 10 times bigger, the planet would be a sun in its own right, shining with its own thermonuclear fire.

Jupiter is 1,300 times bigger

than the Earth and 318 times heavier. Its gravity is so strong, a person who weighed 150 pounds on Earth would weigh nearly a quarter of a ton on the planet's surface.

Yet it is doubtful Jupiter even has a "surface" as we understand the term. It is believed that some 2,000 miles inside its atmosphere there is a layer of semi-solid hydrogen, or hydrogen "slush."

This "surface" is in all likelihood lashed by torrents of ammonia rain, triggered by thunderstorms of stupendous violence. From the evidence of radio outbursts that reach us from Jupiter, it has been calculated that these bursts, following each other in staccato succession, have the equivalent energy of 100,000 million Earthly strokes of lightning.

Object

Any large object resting on the mushy surface would sink rapidly, as through a quicksand, to a region some 20,000 miles deeper where it would encounter a layer of impenetrable solidity. This will be metallic hydrogen,

a substance that cannot exist on Earth, for it needs a gravitational pressure of 14.7 million pounds per square inch to turn hydrogen, the lightest of gases, into a metal.

The next decade will see two important missions to Mars, a planet much like the Earth, which will be precursors to manned landings early in the next century.

NASA's Mars Observer, to be launched in 1992, will orbit the planet and photograph it for 21 months — one Martian year observing its topography and the changing seasons.

Eager

In particular, scientists are eager to get a better view of the "face," a mile-wide object in the region of Cydonia that may be an artefact of a long vanished civilisation.

Before the year 2000, the Mars Sample Return Mission will see unmanned vehicles roving the surface. After 300 days of this robotic exploration, samples of rocks and soil will be collected and rocketed into Mars' orbit for return to Earth. Much more

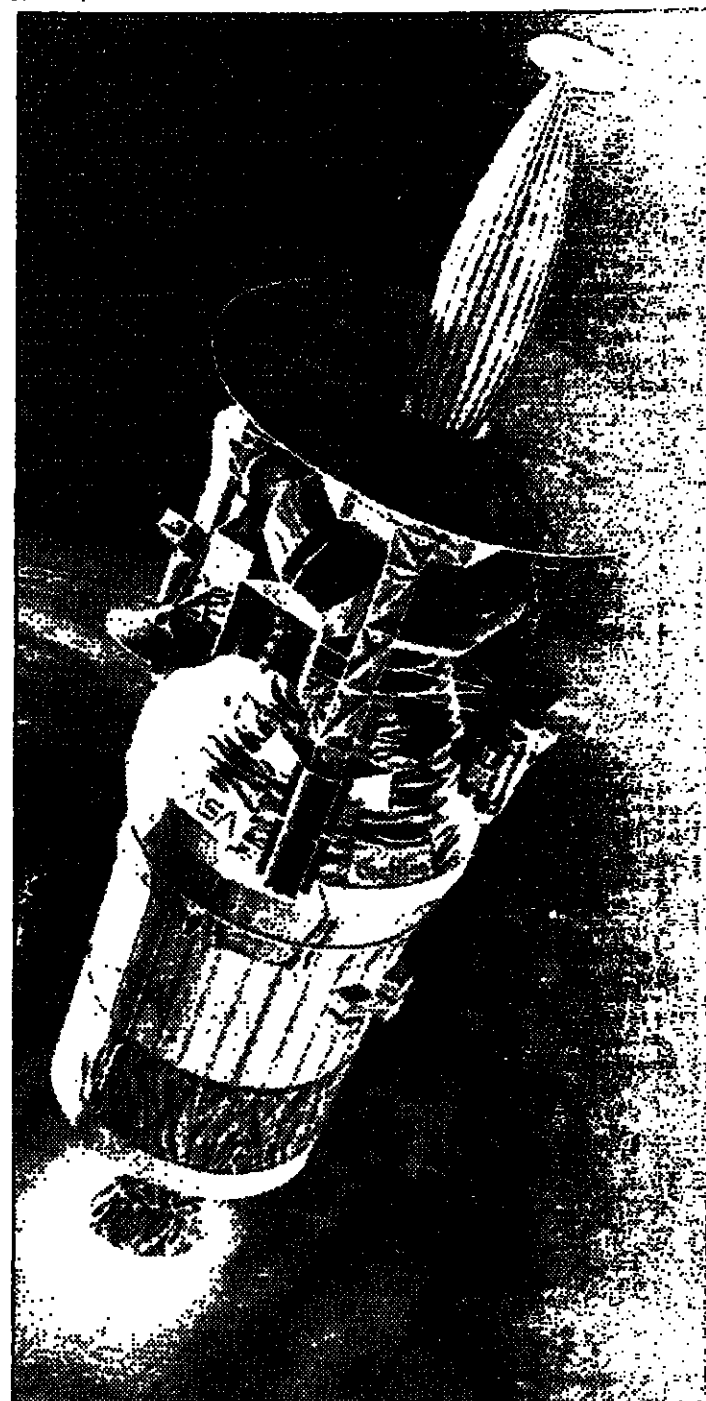
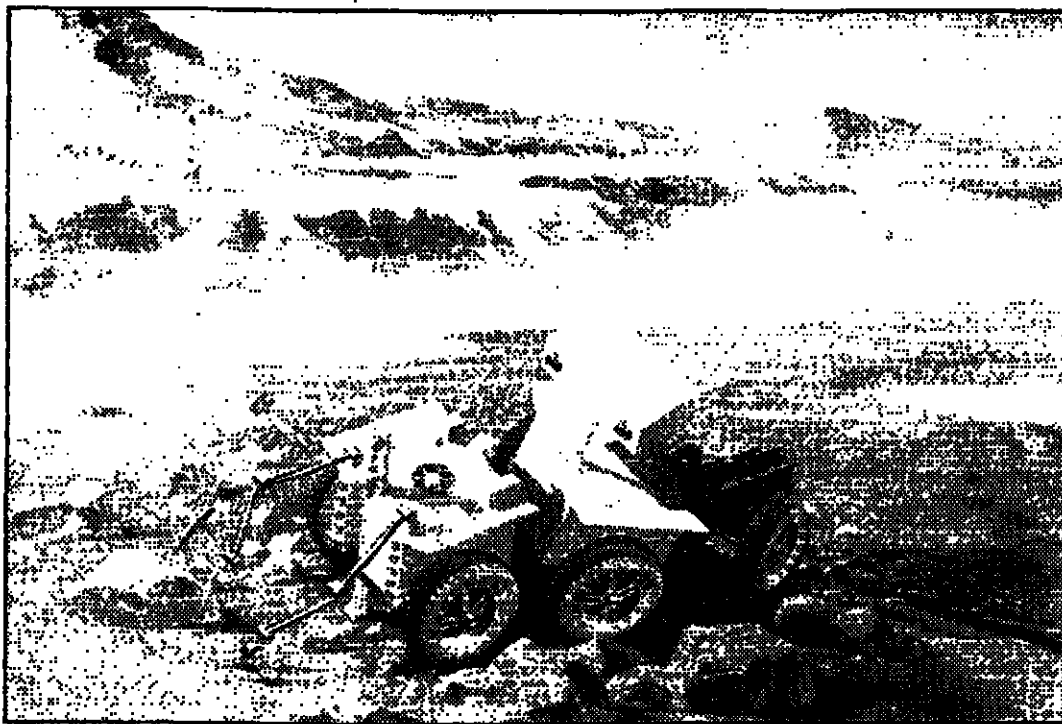
needs to be known about conditions on the surface of Mars before people can be sent there.

With forthcoming expeditions to even more distant and unimaginably alien worlds with seas of frozen methane, critics will increasingly ask what it is all for. The answer is plain. Far from merely satisfying man's curiosity, these missions will closely affect the future of the human race.

This idea was best expressed by Professor Nicholas Kardashev, of the Institute for Space Research in Moscow, who believes a civilisation goes through three stages.

He sees the modern world as a Phase I civilisation which draws on the resources of a single planet; a Phase II civilisation, to which these missions ultimately belong, takes an entire solar system as its domain.

And, if Dr Pearson is correct about the absence of interfering extraterrestrials, it may be only a few million years before we become a Phase III civilisation occupying a large part of a whole galaxy.



An artist's impression of NASA's Galileo spacecraft (above) which will probe the hostile Jovian atmosphere; and the robotic rover (above left), part of the Mars Sample Return Mission to put unmanned vehicles on the planet before 2000.

Computer translations coming of age in Japan

By Steven Brill

TOKYO, (Reuters): Decades after Western scientists first dreamed of teaching computers the art of translation, the idea is becoming commercially viable in Japan.

While electronics giants such as Fujitsu, Hitachi and Toshiba and some smaller firms, have for years offered translation systems for technical documents, total sales amount to only a few thousand and many systems sit idle.

But smarter systems and surging demand for translations of Japanese suggest sales could mushroom, experts said.

"In two to three years we could see an explosion of users, up to 10 times as many as now," said Makoto Nagao, professor of electrical engineering at Kyoto University and one of Japan's leading researchers.

Accuracy

Restricted to scientific or technical topics, the systems often achieve translation accuracy rates of 70 per cent or higher. Texts must then be laboriously checked by human translators, but fine-tuned systems still yield savings.

But the day when computers translate books, let alone poetry, is still a long way off, experts said.

Japan has long translated massive volumes of Western manuscripts, but now the excellence of Japanese industry and technology is spurring demand for English translations of Japanese manuals, scientific abstracts and financial data.

"Quick information is vital to high technology fields. If it's five to six months late, it's no longer interesting to researchers," said Maurice Bourene, the European Economic Community's attaché for scientific and technological affairs in Tokyo.

The EEC works with Fujitsu to translate about 900 abstracts a month of scientific papers that would otherwise be unavailable in English. Computer translation does not save EEC any money, Bourene said, but is said about 50 per cent faster.

Translation

The Japanese government, seeking to push machine translation forward and increase technical information exchange, is funding projects that would make more Japanese research available in English, Chinese, Thai, Malaysian and Indonesian.

Useful translation systems between Japanese and Korean, closely related languages, already exist.

Machine translation was first advanced in the 1930s by French and Russian scientists.

By the 1960s, US researchers wrote the first software programmes with a degree of grammatical analysis for Russian-to-English translation. They soon gave up because the technology of the day was not up to the task, Nagao said.

Meanwhile, the Japanese laboured on.

"Japanese is such a different language that we had no choice but to delve into it — that's why we're ahead," said Hiroshi Uchida, head of translation software development at Fujitsu.

The differences between Japanese and English are striking.

Nightmare

The order of English sentences is generally subject-verb-object, but Japanese is subject-object-verb. And with Japanese, the subject is often left out.

English uses a 26-letter alphabet while Japanese is a nightmare of two phonetic syllabaries and thousands of Chinese ideographs.



A Japanese computer operator shows off how her machine transforms Japanese into English.

Moreover, styles differ so much that putting Japanese into English often requires adding ideas not in the original.

All of this has forced Japanese scientists to create software that can parse, or classify, a sentence into its grammatical components, perform a bit of semantic analysis, and generate a sentence in another language.

Developers and users have compiled electronic dictionaries for specialised fields containing up to several hundred thousand terms.

Human

Recent advances in computer hardware — leaps in computer memory and processing speed — and more powerful linguistic analysis methods, have given researchers tools for system which can span the Gulf.

But not without the human

touch, because computer translated text must be checked by translator. Text also must be pre-edited.

"Translators hate checking — it's more painful than doing the translation yourself," said Frank Moorhead, president of Multilingua, a translation firm in Tokyo.

Another problem is that computers are completely confounded by ambiguity.

A classic example is the sentence "The missionaries are ready to eat." The meaning depends on your point of view.

Despite these limitations, companies which regularly face tasks such as translating 30,000-page manuals have found the purchase of such systems worthwhile in spite of high prices.

Molecule memory baffles scientists, delights homoeopaths

By Simon Haydon

PARIS, (Reuters): Biologist Jacques Benveniste explains the discovery that is baffling the international scientific community with the following comparison.

"It's like waving your car key in the River Seine in central Paris, taking a few drops of water from the same river 200 km (130 miles) downstream and being able to start your car with that water."

For the French biologist and a team of 13 Canadian, and Italian scientists have discovered that a molecule diluted until it no longer exists can behave as if it was still there, and that the diluted liquid retains the molecule's "memory."

The discovery, which upsets all established molecular knowledge, is so surprising to the scientific community that the team has been trying to disprove its own findings for three years, but has kept returning to the same result.

The results have also delighted supporters of homoeopathic medicine, who have never known exactly how minute quantities of natural substances like belladonna and opium can have healing qualities.

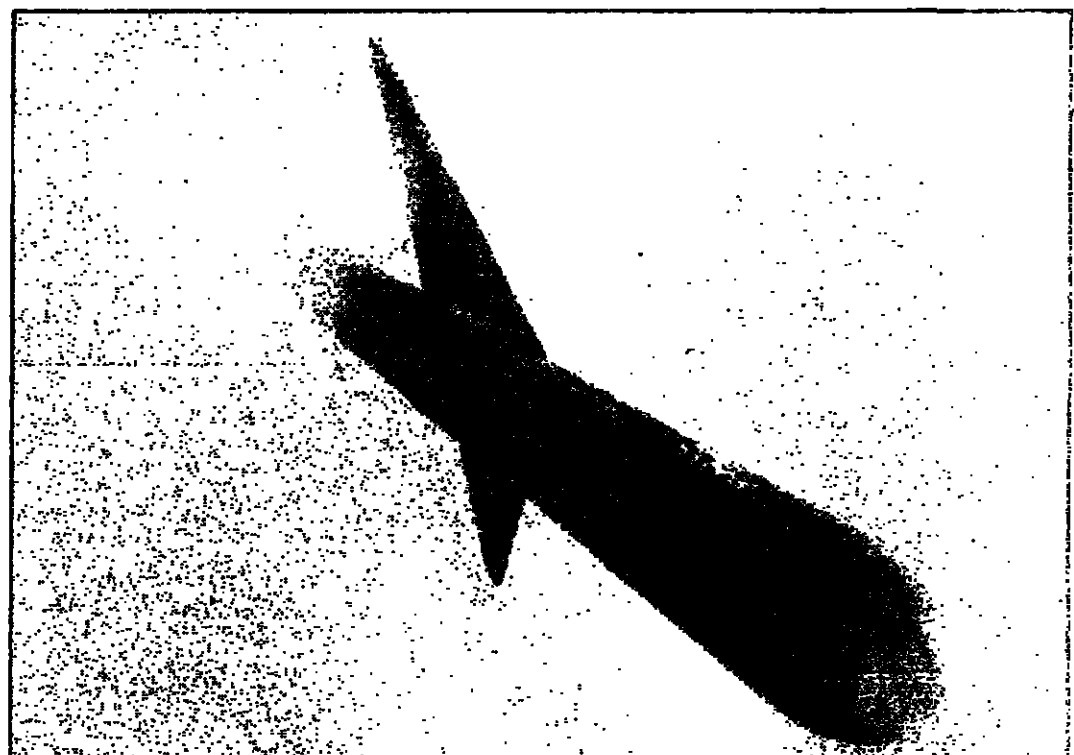
Many scientists have said there was no evidence that products used in homoeopathic medicine can cure illnesses, but supporters say the new discovery could show that the products retain the "memory" of substances that have curing qualities.

"If there was one certainty in our biological universe until now it was that for every function there was a corresponding molecule. Our studies show the existence of a molecular-type effect in the absence of the molecule," said Benveniste.

Benveniste began his research in 1985 with a relatively simple question. Could it be proved that homoeopathic medicines — produced with natural substances rather than laboratory manufactured drugs — had a biological effect on people.

To find an answer, molecules were diluted to the largest extent possible, 10 to the power of 160. The number of particles in the universe totals 10 to the power of 60.

According to Avogadro's law, a molecule no longer exists when it is diluted beyond 10 to the power of 23. The research team's work is the first time it has been suggested that a molecule could have a biological memory.



A high-tech rocket launched from the wing of a B-52 bomber. If successful, this technique will eliminate the need for traditional ground-fired boosters and costly launch pads.

Revolutionizing satellite delivery

By Vincent Del Giudice

FAIRFAX, Virginia, (UPI): An ageing B-52 bomber is on the verge of revolutionizing the satellite delivery business with a high-tech rocket launched from its wing and named for the flying horse Pegasus of Greek mythology.

Built by Orbital Sciences Corp. of Fairfax, Va., and Hercules Aerospace Co. of Wilmington, Del., Pegasus is scheduled to blaze across the sky on its high-stakes maiden voyage off the California coast this summer.

If it proves successful, the cost of launching payloads of 600 pounds into a "useful" earth orbit will be \$6 million, about half the price and twice the capacity of the ground-based Scout rocket, said David Rossi, director of business development for OSI.

"We've dropped the minimum amount you would have to spend to get into orbit," Rossi said in a recent interview at the company's corporate headquarters outside the US capital.

The three-stage, solid-fuel Pegasus, which cost \$40 million to develop, will eliminate the need for traditional ground-fired boosters and costly launch pads, while delivering payloads into polar or equatorial orbits.

The sleek black rocket, which will be strapped beneath the B-52's right wing, resembles a giant torpedo with a broad delta wing and tail fins. It measures 49 feet (15m) in length, with a diameter of 50 inches (1.27m) and a wingspan of 22 feet (6.70m).

The rocket's wing and fins, constructed of lightweight graphite composite, are being made by Burt Rutan, creator of the Voyager aircraft that carried Rutan's brother, Dick, and aviator Janna Yaegeer on a non-stop around-the-world trip. Pegasus will be carried aloft

Pegasus, a high-tech rocket launched from the wing of a B-52 bomber, will revolutionise the launching of payloads of 600 pounds into a 'useful' earth orbit if it proves successful.

from Vandenberg Air Force base, Calif., by the same relatively low-tech NASA B-52 bomber, built in 1952, that launched experimental X-15 rocket planes in the 1950s and 1960s.

"It's the eighth B-52 that was ever made but it only has 2,000 flight hours," Rossi said. "We always joke that it was only used by little old lady test pilots on Sunday."

The high-flying X-15 was not designed to travel into space although it laid important groundwork for project like Pegasus, but the fielding rocket and historic rocketplane look somewhat alike.

No other country or aerospace company has attempted a similar project, Rossi said, but advancements in structural, material and computer design in recent years have made this venture possible.

"It's a combination of a lot of the technology developed in the last 10 years," he said. "We have five times better (on-board) flight computational capability" than the 1970-era computers on America's space shuttle fleet.

"We don't use all that computational capability," Rossi added. "But it exists."

Once the silver B-52 reaches its

cruising altitude of approximately 40,000 feet (12.2 km), Pegasus will be dropped from its wing. Five seconds later the rocket's first stage motor will ignite and carry it to an altitude of 208,000 feet (63.4 km) and a speed near nine times greater than the speed of sound.

After the spent first stage and its graphite wing are jettisoned, the second stage will carry the payload to 552,000 feet (168,900 km) at a velocity of 17,800 feet (5.4 km) per second — about 12,000 mph (1,930 kph). The third and final stage will place the cargo in an orbit more than 250 miles (400 km) over the planet.

Many people, from those in the aerospace industry to amateur space enthusiasts, are eagerly awaiting the maiden flight, which will carry a payload for the Defense Department.

According to a recent article in Ad Astra, the Journal of the National Space Society, "compared to ground-launched rockets of similar size, Pegasus has double the payload capacity. Its performance is due to several characteristics unique to air-launched vehicles."

"First, the aircraft's velocity gives Pegasus an added boost. In the case of Pegasus, this translates into a 1 to 2 percent performance increase over ground-launched rockets," the journal said. "Of greater significance is the fact that air-launched rockets are released at high altitudes where the air is thin."

The journal also noted ground launched rockets are laden with much more fuel "to punch a hole through the dense part of the atmosphere."

Pegasus can also be launched despite poor ground weather conditions. Its jet carrier flies high above storm clouds and dangerous lightning bolts, which can blast a roaring rocket to pieces.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Second stage of Iraqi pipeline across Saudi Arabia on schedule

KUWAIT, Mar 4, (OPECNA): Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi confirmed here yesterday that the second stage of the giant Iraqi oil pipeline being built across Saudi Arabia was on schedule and would be completed in September this year.

While confirming that Iraq would export its oil through the Gulf, he said there are no plans at present to export Iraqi gas across Turkey, but added that there were other aspects of co-operation between the two countries in the oil sector.

Al Chalabi, talking to a local newspaper, hoped that Egypt would return to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) in May, as the majority of members wished to restore Cairo's membership, suspended after it signed the camp David accords with Israel.

Asked about the proposed OPEC summit, he said the last one was held in 1975 and though the next one was to be staged in 1980, it had to be put off owing to the outbreak of Gulf hostilities. He was hopeful it would now be held, since most OPEC member states felt positively towards it.

Al Chalabi noted that oil prices had improved, adding that around four million BPD had been withdrawn from the market. He was confident that oil producing countries would not increase their production. He emphasised the desirability of maintaining prices at a fair and reasonable level.

Sony applies for US TV research grant

TOKYO, March 4, (AP): Sony Corp. of America has applied to participate in a US Defence Department programme for development of high-definition television equipment, a Sony official said today.

Sony's application for \$30 million in government grants is expected to lead to controversy over foreign participation in US government-funded research programmes.

When the programme was announced by the US Defence Department in December, defence officials reportedly described it as a means to help US electronics firms catch up with Europe and Japan, both of which already have developed high-definition television systems.

High-definition TV, or HDTV, provides pictures that are much clearer and more detailed than that offered by regular television equipment.

But in January, US officials said the programme would be open to foreign bidders because federal procurement regulations require open competition.

Sony Corp. of America submitted bids to the US Defence Department's defence advanced research project agency and more detailed than that offered by regular television equipment.

Zenith Electronics Corp. and American Telephone and Telegraph Co. said on Tuesday they had formed a partnership to produce HDTV equipment and also submitted a bid for the Defence Department project.

More than 80 bids were received for the research programme, News reports said.

Sony is a leader in the development of HDTV equipment in Japan, where HDTV broadcasts are expected to begin in less than two years. Sony introduced its first HDTV studio equipment in 1981, said the Sony official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

System

European companies have developed a separate HDTV system that is not compatible with the Japanese system, and plan to begin marketing equipment in 1992, officials said.

Last summer, the US Federal Communications Commission set preliminary standards for future US HDTV broadcasts that are incompatible with both the Japanese and European systems.

At that time, US electronics officials expressed hope that the separate standards would allow American makers time to catch up with foreign competitors in the US market, and urged the US government to support HDTV development.

Interest rates may back up further, says analyst

Economic slowdown slow in coming

NEW YORK, March 4, (AP): It has been a long wait for Wall Streeters looking for signs of a much-predicted slowdown in the economy.

The script written by most bulls on the stock market for 1989 called for business activity to cool off, allowing interest rates to top out and turn downward.

That, in turn would ease the competitive pressure on the stock market that comes from virtually riskless money-market securities such as treasury bills yielding close to 9 per cent.

But approaching the end of the first quarter of the year, there is little evidence at hand that the economy is yielding to credit-tightening by the Federal Reserve.

On Friday, for example, the Commerce Department reported that the index of leading

economic indicators rose 0.6 per cent in January after posting a 0.7 per cent increase the month before.

If a slackening of growth is in the offing, it hasn't shown up yet in that statistical early-warning system.

Slowdown

But many adherents to the "slowdown" view still insist the picture is likely to change before long.

"We will soon see softer economic numbers and a peaking of rates," declares John Connolly at Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.

"There is a myth that the Federal Reserve has not been tough enough. Two years ago the prime rate was resting at 7-1/2 per cent. Now it is 11-1/2 per cent. It's 400 basis points, or an increase over 50 per cent."

However, because tightening

"There should be little doubt that a double-digit prime, coupled with double-digit mortgage rates, will be reflected in economic activity."

Growth

Maury Harris, economist at the PaineWebber Investment Company, said the Fed stepped up its credit-tightening in November after it concluded that growth had been restrained to some extent, but not enough to satisfy the Central Bank's inflation-fighting goals.

"Given lags between changes in monetary policy and the ultimate effects on the economy, it was too soon to expect the recent crop of January economic statistics to show very much effect from the tightening since November," Harris stated.

However, because tightening

worked last year, it should do so again.

Hopes on that score helped the stock market achieve some grudging gains in the past week, recouping some of the previous week's steep losses.

Drop

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials rose 28.75 to 2,274.29, rebounding from a 79.28-point drop the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index gained 2.18 to 163.90; the NASDAQ composite index for the over-the-counter market added 4.03 to 403.99, and the American Stock Exchange market value index was up 4.73 to 326.22.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 155.66 million shares a day, against 154.03 million in the preceding week.

Some observers, of course, worry not that the Fed has been too cautious but that it has gone too far, setting the economy on course for a recession.

In the view of Hugh Johnson at First Albany Corp., there are good reasons to worry about inflation.

Strengthen

"Inflation rates are likely to strengthen, Federal Reserve policy should remain tight, and interest rates may back up further," Johnson said.

"By midyear, the economy should begin to slow and the rate of inflation should begin to recede."

"The Federal Reserve has not tightened enough to cause a recession, although the risk that they will, over the near term, should be taken seriously."

Adjustment must not be delayed, says Camdessus

IMF sticks to its guns despite Venezuelan price riots

WASHINGTON, March 4, (Reuters): Among the many casualties of this week's price riots in Venezuela is Michel Camdessus's hope of creating a kinder, gentler image for the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Yet far from sowing doubts about the fund's policies, the riots have strengthened the IMF managing director's belief that the longer economic adjustment is postponed the more painful it becomes.

"There is a lesson to be drawn from the Venezuelan experience. Adjustment must not be delayed, and the longer it is delayed the higher the price that must be paid in terms of sacrifice required to rectify the situation," Camdessus told the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs.

Cost

"This cost is unavoidable, irrespective of whether or not the fund is involved," he added.

The rioting, in which at least

200 people have been killed, is a blow for Camdessus, who has worked hard in the two years since he took charge at the fund to overcome the hatred that much of the Third World has for the agency.

He has raised \$8 billion to be lent on easy terms to the poorest countries, streamlined loan conditions and assured borrowers in advance that they will be protected from external shocks such as slumping commodity prices.

The IMF has also encouraged governments to find ways of sheltering the poorest when belt-tightening programmes are put in place.

Effects

"The effects of economic adjustment policies and programmes on the living standards of the poor are an important concern," Peter Heller of the fund's fiscal affairs department said.

"The poor should be safeguarded, where possible, from the

adverse effects these programmes can have in the short run," he wrote recently in Finance and Development, a fund publication.

The problem is that the fund can advise governments what to do, but cannot tell them how to do it. Thus all too often, fund officials say, the pain of adjustment falls heaviest on the weakest while the ruling elites are able to cushion the impact on their standards of living.

"We have not dictated, nor can we dictate, measures to a sovereign country," said Camdessus, who expressed sorrow and grief for the victims of the rioting in Venezuela.

Suggestions

Another official added, "although we can make suggestions, how they use the money has to be the decision of a sovereign government."

The upheaval comes at an awkward time for the fund.

Anticipating the day when the US Treasury will support a new injection of capital, it is pondering how to improve its image with Congress, which would have to approve the funds.

The IMF has few friends on Capitol Hill. Some Congressmen think its loans bail out commercial banks. Conservatives dislike its loan conditions. Liberals, even before the Venezuelan disorders, blamed the fund for imposing austerity.

Support

"The fund has no natural constituency," a monetary source said. Whereas the World Bank enjoys support from businesses that get procurement orders and from countries that benefit from its development loans, the IMF gets no thanks for being called in to help solve economic crises, he said.

The Third World remembers that riots touched off by price rises ordered by the IMF killed

more than 50 people in the Dominican Republic in 1984 and that the Sudanese government was toppled in 1985 after the IMF suspended loans.

Bankers and many US officials, by contrast, sympathise with the fund argument that delays in adjusting government budgets to changed economic conditions make matters worse.

Camdessus, aware of worries that the disturbances could lead to political upheaval, added, "sound economic policies remain the best way of consolidating democracy."

Ironically, it was in Caracas last May that Camdessus appealed to governments to reduce less urgent expenditures in order to protect the poorest segments of the population when making necessary economic adjustments.

"Let me not, though, suggest that any of it will be easy," he warned. It was a prophetic remark.

Japan's current account surplus declines

TOKYO, March 4, (AP): Higher oil prices helped cut Japan's current account surplus in January to \$1.734 billion, 50 per cent smaller than the previous January and 81 per cent less than December, the Finance Ministry said yesterday.

January was the second month in a row that the current account surplus fell below its year-earlier level. In January 1988 it registered \$3.505 billion, while in December it was \$9.274 billion.

Surplus

The current account, the broadest measure of a nation's international financial transactions, includes merchandise trade, tourism, investment and other monetary flows.

The ministry said Japan's trade surplus also declined in January, falling to \$4.174 billion from \$4.557 billion a year earlier and \$10.932 billion in December.

It was the first monthly decline in the trade surplus in four months, easing concerns among government officials that efforts to reduce Japan's trade imbalance may have lost effect.

After falling steadily through last summer, Japan's trade surplus has grown in recent months as strong overseas demand for Japanese products pushed up efforts, and low crude oil prices led to a drop in imports.

Prices

However, higher world oil prices in January helped boost imports during January, the officials said. Japan must import most of its energy sources.

Imports in January totalled \$14.607 billion, up 17.0 per cent from a year earlier and 0.1 per cent from December.

Exports in January increased 10.2 per cent to \$18.781 billion from a year earlier but declined 26.5 per cent from December. Ministry officials noted that the pace of export growth has slowed in recent months, from 18.8 per cent in November and 11.5 per cent in December. They called this an encouraging sign for attempts to reduce the trade surplus.

Exports of semiconductors, cars and business machines were strong, the officials said. Both exports and imports in the current account balance are measured when contracts are set-

led, and are different from customs-clearance trade statistics the ministry announces separately each month.

The ministry announcement did not include breakdowns of trade figures by country or region.

Oil discovery

LONDON, March 4, (KUNA): British oil giant BP has made a "significant" oil discovery off the south coast of Ireland, it was reported here today.

The Times newspaper said the find was in the Celtic basin, near the Irish Republic's only existing offshore installation, the Marathon Kinleith gas field.

"The discovery, if found to be commercially viable, would have a significant effect on the Irish economy," the daily reported.

Greenspan worried about pace of budget talks

WASHINGTON, March 4, (Reuters): US Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, preaching his budget sermon on Capitol Hill for the fifth time in 10 days, chided Congress yesterday for dragging its feet on reducing the budget deficit.

Testifying to the House of Representatives' Budget Committee, Greenspan warned that the longer Congress waits to cut the deficit, projected to total \$163 billion this year, the greater the risk of upheaval in the financial markets.

"I'm concerned that you won't move as rapidly as you ought to," the Fed chairman said.

Spending

Greenspan reiterated his preference for closing the budget gap by cutting spending, saying that raising taxes would probably not work over the long run.

The Fed chief said he backed an increase in the petrol tax in order to reduce America's dependence on imported oil, but he pointedly stayed above the political fray by refusing to advise where Congress should look to save money.

"Frankly, I don't have a vote and I don't think (my opinion) is worth very much," he said.

Senate confirms

Watkins as energy secretary

WASHINGTON, March 4, (AP): The Senate voted 99-0 today to confirm James D. Watkins as energy secretary, handing the retired Admiral the "dumpling challenge" of refurbishing the Energy Department's crippled network of nuclear weapons factories.

The vote came less than four hours after the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee voted 19-0 to recommend that Watkins, 61, be made the first career military man to head the department since it was created in 1977.

Priority

J. Bennett Johnston, chairman of the committee, told the Senate that the job of reviving and cleaning up the nuclear weapons complex was a top priority.

"It is perhaps the most daunting challenge that we have ever given to anybody in the cabinet... anytime in the history of this country," Johnston said.

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World Business Summary

Frenzied investors push Istanbul stocks to new peak

ISTANBUL, March 4, (Reuters): Crowds of frenzied investors pushed trading volume at the Istanbul Stock Exchange to an all-time high as Turkish stocks hit a 1989 peak yesterday. "Look at this," shouted one dealer amid hectic bidding. "Two months ago nobody cared. Now everyone is thirsty to trade." The index hit a high of 563.82 before closing at 548.68 after profit-takers moved in. Trading volume was a record 3,083 billion lira (\$1.5 million). At the exchange, a crowd of about 900 people strained to see the prices. They included elderly shopkeepers, university students, smart young businessmen and even gold dealers from the bazaar. "One dealer gave a hundred million lira (\$50,000) cheque to his young shop-runner and sent him down here. He told the boy to buy whatever he thought best," one banker said. The rise in the index of 4.3 per cent on Thursday and 29.2 per cent since last Friday was due to the price of shares being seen as undervalued, to cuts in bank deposit rates, expectations of lower inflation and poor returns from investment in gold and foreign currencies, bankers said. "Why should I buy gold or deposit my money in banks? They are all wiped out by the cost of living. So I am going to buy stocks," said an old woman wearing a headscarf. The upturn in stocks also reflected good results from companies last year despite 75 per cent inflation. The optimistic mood was underlined by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal as he described a \$1.5 billion balance of payments surplus in 1988 as "a historic turning point." "Since 1973, Turkey has always had a deficit," Ozal told a news conference in Ankara. Long-term hopes that prices will rise are linked to a \$60-million Turkish investment fund due to be launched this summer. It is the first of several foreign mutual funds worth hundreds of millions of dollars waiting for permission to buy into Turkish stocks, bankers say. "Prices are still low and the run will go on until they reach a realistic level... a share in a water company was costing less than a bottle of the water it made," said Mubarrat Karadil, chairman of the Istanbul Stock Exchange.

Bahrain raises rate ceilings on dinar deposits

BAHRAIN, March 4, (Reuters): Bahrain has raised its interest rate ceilings on dinar-denominated deposits in the wake of sharp rises in international rates, a spokesman for the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) said today. The BMA told the island's 19 commercial banks it would raise the maximum recommended rates for maturities of up to six months by one percentage point effective March 1, the spokesman said. There will be no limit on yields for maturities of over six months duration. The spokesman said the step, which applies only to private customers, was aimed at stemming a possible outflow of dinars into higher-yielding dollar deposits. "These changes are designed to increase banks' scope for funding following recent increases in international interest rates," the BMA spokesman said. The ceiling for maturities of less than three months was raised to seven per cent from six while that on three to six months was increased to 7-1/2 per cent from 6-1/2. The maximum level for maturities of over six months was abolished. Ceilings on certificates of deposit (CDs) for more than 30,000 dinars were increased by the same amount with the level for less than three months CD's rising to 7-1/2 per cent from 6-1/2 and three to six months to eight per cent from seven. Yields on CD maturities of over six months are subject to negotiation between banks and customers. The BMA statement clarified reports published in Bahrain's daily Al Akhbar Al Khaleej newspaper yesterday. Bankers said they welcomed the move and had already begun to raise interest rates on demand and savings accounts. "The move is a natural one which will help narrow the gap between dinar and dollar interest rates," Hassan Juma, general manager of the National Bank of Bahrain, said.

UN expected to hold special session on economy in April

UNITED NATIONS, March 4, (Reuters): The UN General Assembly will be asked to approve on Tuesday the convening of a special session on World Trade economic development in April 1990, a UN spokesman said yesterday. Spokesman Juan Brandt told reporters that an assembly committee had recommended that the General Assembly hold the special meetings from April 23 through 27 next year to discuss in particular the revitalisation of economic growth of the developing nations. Over objections by the United States, which cast the only negative vote, the assembly's economic committee agreed on Thursday on the need for the session, which is expected to be attended by cabinet officers of member states. Ninety-seven states, including such industrial powers as Japan and the European Economic Community members, voted in favour of the session. As the composition of the committee is similar to that of the plenary body, ratification of its proposal is virtually certain. Traditionally, the United States is sceptical about the practical merit of special UN sessions, which also add substantially to the organisation's costs. Reflecting the concern of debt-ridden developing lands, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo of Argentina, the assembly president, will return to New York from Buenos Aires to take charge at next week's session. Brandt said, Argentina is the third largest debtor in Latin America, owing \$53 billion.

Bangladesh woos Indian firms to set up fertiliser plants

NEW DELHI, March 4, (KUNA): Bangladesh has successfully wooed Indian companies to set up gas-based fertiliser plants. The offer includes cheap supply of gas, option of sale of outputs and other incentives being given to foreign export-oriented industries. In addition to these offers, Bangladesh, as a location for Indian fertiliser plants has the advantage of being next door neighbour. Earlier India was making efforts with several Arab countries, including Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman, for setting up plants there with buy back arrangements. The new tie-up will save freight costs for Indian fertiliser imports. Moreover the cost of putting up project would be much lower than in the Gulf, says the officials of Energy Ministry. Even as the government is examining a report of an expert group for establishment of urea plant in Oman as a first step to tap the cheap Gulf gas, the Bangladesh offer may compel India to look eastwards. A high level Bangladesh delegation recently met Commerce Minister Dinesh Singh and made this offer. It is learnt that India is examining the offer to set up gas-based projects in the beginning because of low gas prices there. Gas is available at less than half a dollar per one British thermal unit (BTU). But the discouraging factor is freight cost of importing fertiliser, cost of setting up the projects and distribution. Bangladesh has 12 trillion cu ft of natural gas, which has not yet been fully exploited. Natural gas is presently used mainly in production of urea, electricity generation and fuel for industries. The gas is priced \$1.87 per 100 cubic feet, which could be little more expensive than the prevailing prices in the Gulf.

Pakistan to promote investment in industry

WASHINGTON, March 4: Pakistan will intensify its efforts to promote private investment in several medium and large-scale industries, especially in the manufacturing sector, with the help of a \$148 million loan from the World Bank and a credit of SDR 1.5 million (\$2 million) from the International Development Association (IDA), IDA is the World Bank affiliate that lends on concessional terms to the poorest countries, according to World Bank News. The project will channel funds to private industries through four commercial banks and three development banks, which will release the money for investments in the manufacturing sector. The project will also accelerate the growth of the stock market through policy changes and improve the delivery of credit for financing industries.

بازار ۱۵۰۱

Kuwait trade volume dips

Further sharp fall in shares

THE Alshahi index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 36.40 points with a decrease of 0.57 points — 1.54 per cent — from last week's average.

The Alshahi index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 71.60 points with a decrease of 0.06 point — 0.08 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshahi Economic Consultants.

The trading volume (four days of trading only) for Kuwaiti shares reached 8.43 million shares at a daily average of 2.11 million shares with a substantial decrease of 30 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 4.24 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 2.33 million shares at a daily average of 0.60 million shares with a decrease of 46 per cent from last week's daily average of 1.11 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD3.23 million at a daily average of KD0.808 million, a decrease of 54 per cent from last week's daily average of KD1.770 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.156 million at a daily average of KD0.039 million, a decrease of 33 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.058 million.

The market continues to show signs of low activity, reflected on all three indices in both markets, more pronounced however on the Kuwaiti market.

The reason behind this low activity is attributed mostly to the fact that important companies have already declared their financial positions and dividends to the public, and dealers have already started to assess these distributions in order to judge market fair price.

Companies that have not declared their dividends to the present are either planning to distribute their usual dividends or are not planning to distribute any dividends at all.

The total of Kuwaiti companies that have declared their financial positions reached 21 (48 per cent of total listed companies).

Twelve companies — 57 per cent of total companies that have declared their dividends — have distributed stock dividends against five companies only — 24 per cent — of the same group that distributed stock dividends last year.

As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, only two out of seven — 29 per cent of total listed companies — have declared cash dividends.

The Kuwaiti stock exchange market could return to a state of stability and balance if no external interventions are exerted and if this state was kept for at least a year or two.

This will help market prices to reflect the real value of company shares and their true performance.

However the liquidation of certain weak companies that do not meet required criteria might result if no intervention is exerted on the market.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector had the lead at 63 per cent of total trading against 60.5 per cent last week. The National Bank of Kuwait had the lead at 39 per cent, followed by The Commercial Bank at 30 per cent, and Al Ahli Bank at 13 per cent.

The services sector came second at 13 per cent, of which Public Warehousing led at 61 per cent, followed by Kuwait Commercial Markets at 28 per cent and Mobile Telephone Systems at 11 per cent.

The investment sector came third at 12 per cent, of which Kuwait Investment Projects had the lead at 79 per cent, followed by both International Financial Advisors (IFA) and National Investments at 8 per cent each and Kuwait Pearl Investment at 5 per cent.

For the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 38 per cent, followed by Coast Investment and Development Company at 36 per cent and Arabian Investment Company (SHUAA) at 18 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

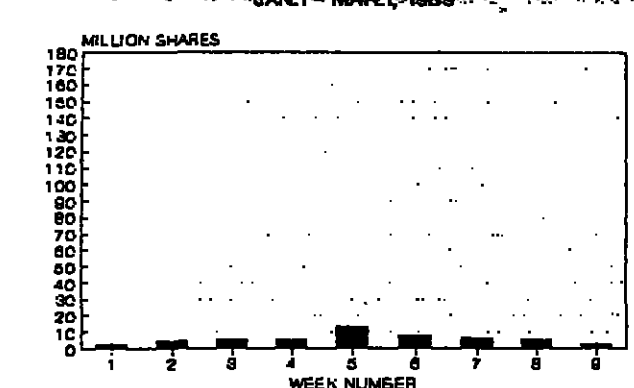
	Wednesday 01/03/89	Wednesday 22/02/89	Change points
Banking Sector			
The National Bank	100.89	103.18	-2.29
The Gulf Bank	29.00	29.42	-0.41
The Commercial Bank	22.21	22.65	-0.44
Al Ahli Bank	25.47	25.95	-0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	30.26	31.57	-1.32
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	29.37	29.37	—
Burgan Bank	25.27	25.27	—
Kuwait Finance House	64.25	65.76	-1.51
Sector Index	42.12	42.86	-0.84
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	25.71	25.71	—
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	17.87	17.87	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	63.49	65.08	-1.59
IFA	41.18	42.65	-1.47
Commercial Facilities	120.00	120.00	—
National Investments	66.67	66.67	—
Kuwait Investment Proj.	85.39	91.01	-5.62
Sector Index	38.17	38.81	-0.64
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	38.05	38.05	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	27.69	27.69	—
Al Ahlia Insurance Co.	49.51	49.51	—
Warba Insurance Co.	62.71	62.71	—
Sector Index	38.82	38.82	—
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	17.84	17.84	—
United Realty	6.25	6.37	-0.11
National Real Estate	38.22	38.22	—
Sector Index	14.34	14.41	-0.08
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	11.59	11.59	—
Refrigeration Indust.	73.57	77.96	-4.39
Gulf Cables	109.73	109.73	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	48.00	62.22	-14.22
Sector Index	28.30	29.24	-0.94
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	166.32	166.32	—
Kuwait Cinema Co.	8.56	8.56	—
Public Warehousing Co.	58.59	56.57	2.02
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	31.31	31.96	-0.65
Mobile Telephone Syst.	257.14	261.90	-4.76
Sector Index	48.81	48.84	-0.13
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	48.41	48.41	—
United Fisheries	9.92	9.92	—
Kuwait United Poultry	83.61	83.61	—
Kuwait Food Co.	67.82	67.82	—
Sector Index	42.31	42.31	—
Overall Index	38.40	38.97	-0.57

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index

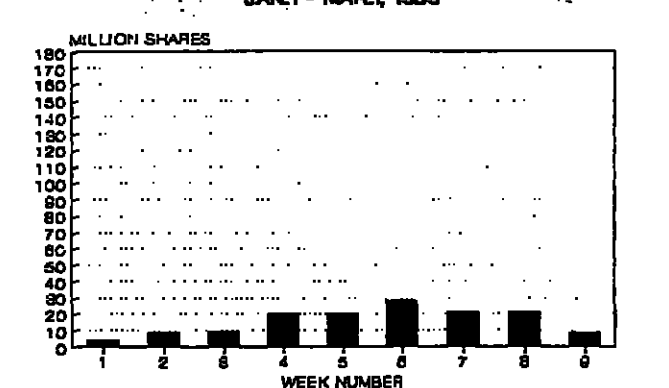
	Wednesday 01/03/89	Wednesday 22/02/89	Change points
First Gulf Bank	144.74	144.74	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	95.17	95.17	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	98.71	100.61	-1.90
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	80.95	80.00	0.95
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	50.00	50.00	—
Umm Al Quwain Cement	16.87	16.87	—
Gulf Medical Projects	20.83	20.83	—
Total Index	71.60	71.66	-0.06

— Base Period 31/12/1983.
— All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

NON-KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES
WEEKLY TRADING VOLUME FROM
JAN. 1 - MAR. 1989



KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES
WEEKLY TRADING VOLUME FROM
JAN. 1 - MAR. 1989



Jordanian currency will regain strength, says Rifai

AMMAN, Jordan, March 4. (AP) Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said the Jordanian currency will regain its strength "in a matter of seven to 10 days," as a step towards overcoming the country's financial crisis, the Saudi daily newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat reported.

Rifai also said in an interview with the newspaper that the Middle East conflict could be settled "peacefully" through an international conference.

The Arabic-language, London-based daily published the interview yesterday. Copies were available in Jordan today.

The premier, whose government recently took measures to limit the outflow of foreign currency, said Jordan was enmeshed in a financial crisis "rather than an economic one."

He said the problems stemmed from some Arab countries' failure to meet their financial obligations to the kingdom.

Debt

While Jordan's foreign debt soared to an estimated \$6.5 billion, income from Arab aid donors pledged during the 1978 Baghdad summit and remittances from Jordanian workers abroad slipped by several hundred million dollars.

Rifai predicted that the Jordanian dinar will "reach an actually balanced level against the dollar, reflecting its genuine value rather than the rate imposed by the government."

He said the dinar's former rate, fluctuating between \$2.20 and \$2.80 six months ago, was unrealistically high and caused "lots of problems which had a bearing on our foreign currency reserves."

Rifai said Jordan decided to float the dinar because its overvalued rate made industry less competitive on foreign markets. The dinar's current value as set by the Central Bank of Jordan stands at \$1.9.

Imports

In recent months, Jordan has sharply limited imports, shut down all non-bank money changers' operations in order to halt currency speculation and offered incentives for export industries.

The premier asserted that Jordan's economy "has been achieving good growth rates, when compared with other countries in the region or even in the world."

But he added that the country's commercial and bank debts need international coverage through the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

A senior Jordanian banker, Maher Shukri, said recently that Jordan faces about \$1.2 billion in loan repayments this year.

Saudi riyal deposits display firmer tone

NICOSIA, March 4. (Reuters) Saudi riyal interbank deposits displayed a firmer tone today in response to tight liquidity but trade was thin due to slack demand typical during the European weekend, when many offshore players are absent.

Dealers said a wave of borrowing last week by offshore banks in Bahrain had helped drain liquidity and was continuing to exert upward pressure on fixed period rates.

Rates for one to six-month funds had initially surged on the back of sharp rises in Eurodollar rates.

Thin

Trade was thin and focussed on day-to-day money as banks covered positions. Spot and one-week funds were relatively steady at 10, 9-1/2 per cent.

Tomorrow's next was quoted at 11, 10-1/2 per cent and dealt at those levels.

This week the Nikkei index was extremely vulnerable hitting a record high of 32,385.77 after profit-taking. The largest fall of the year, followed dropping 300.17 to close at 31,985.60.

Nervousness about weak overseas markets and political instability in Japan were blamed for the decline.

Japan's industrial output continued to surge ahead boosted by strong domestic demand with the production index in January up a further 1.2 per cent in December.

World oil prices mixed

Pakistan, Tunisia to promote economic ties

KARACHI, Pakistan, March 4. (Reuters) Prime Ministers Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan and Hedi Baccouche of Tunisia agreed today to promote economic relations between their countries.

Baccouche arrived yesterday for a three-day visit to Pakistan. The officials said the two leaders discussed regional and international issues and there was a close identity of views. They gave no details.

Highest

West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude for immediate delivery, slumped 16 cents to \$18.56 barrel on the New York mercantile exchange.

Home-heating oil for April delivery fell back 1.07 cents to 50.80 cents a gallon on the Merc, wiping out a large portion of Thursday's 1.38 cent gain.

Unleaded gasoline was down 0.68 cent to 51.53 cents a gallon.

On the European spot market, where oil is sold to the highest bidder, the United Arab Emirates' Dubai Light — the key

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.880	0.880	0.880	0.880	75000	8
GULF BANK	0.350	0.350	0.355	0.350	60000	5
COMMERCIAL BK	0.255	0.255	0.260	0.255	450000	14
AHLI BANK	0.265	0.265	0.265	0.265	20000	1
B.K.M.E	0.360	0.345	0.345	0.335	40000	3
K.R.E.B.	0.370	—	—	—	—	—
BURGAN BANK	0.255	—	—	—	—	—
K.F.HOUSE	0.420	0.425	0.425	0.425	140000	9
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.140	—	—	—	—	—
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	—	—	—	—	—
K.I.I.C.	0.104	—	—	—	—	—
CON.FACILITIES	0.080	—	—	—	—	—
AHLIA INV.	0.056	—	—	—	—	—
I.F.A.	0.082	0.080	0.080	0.080	53830	1
INV. PEARL KWT	0.068	—	—	—	—	—
NATIONAL INV.	0.079	0.076	0.076	0.076	640000	4
KUT PROJECTS	0.700	—	—	—	—	—
KUT INSURANCE	0.360	—	—	—	—	—
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.365	—	—	—	—	—
WARRA INS. CO.	0.365	—	—	—	—	—
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KUT R.E.S.T.	0.140	—	—	—	—	—
U.M.I.R.E.S.T.	0.056	—	—	—	—	—
NAT R.E.S.T.	0.192	—	—	—	—	—
SALAHIA R.E.	0.080	—	—	—	—	—
KUT R.E.I. CON	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.520	—	—	—	—	—
KUT M.P. IND.	0.280	—	—	—	—	—
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.170	—	—	—	—	—
REF. IND. CO.	0.355	—	—	—	—	—
N.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
GULF CABLE	0.970	—	—	—	—	—
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.108	—	—	—	—	—
CONT. MARINE	0.280	—	—	—	—	—
K.S.H. REP. CO.	0.045	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	—	—	—	—	—
K.W.C. CO.	0.180	—	—	—	—	—
KUT HOTELS CO.	0.170	—	—	—	—	—
P.WAREHOUSING	0.110	0.116	0.116	0.112	460000	9
COM.MKT. CHPX.	0.068	—	—	—	—	—
MOBILE TELE.	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	20000	2
KUT COMPUTER	0.154	—	—	—	—	—
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.238	—	—	—	—	—
UNTO FISHERIES	0.140	—	—	—	—	—
UNTO POULTRY	0.228	—	—	—	—	—
KUT FOODS	0.295	—	—	—	—	—
AGRI. FOOD PROD.	0.150	—	—	—	—	—
NON-KUT SECTOR						
BHN. INTER.BK	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	360000	5
BHN.M.EAST.BK	0.052	—	—	—	—	—
COAST INVEST.	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	200000	1
A.G. INV. GROUP	0.033	—	—	—	—	—
FIRST GULF BK	0.550	—	—	—	—	—
BHN.KJM.GROUP	0.078	—	—	—	—	—
GULF MEDICAL	0.033	—	—	—	—	—

Non-inflationary growth prescribed to stimulate world trade

WASHINGTON, March 4. (AP) US President George Bush recommends non-inflationary economic growth on the part of industrialised nations to stimulate world trade, according to a report to Congress on Wednesday.

The report from the Treasury Department and the Office of the US Trade Representative said the United States and its major trading partners were committed to making the changes needed to reduce imbalances in world trade.

West Germany and Japan, both countries with large trade surpluses, need to take steps to ensure open and growing domestic markets, the report said.

The United States, meanwhile, "is committed to substantial federal budget deficit reductions, improving its international competitiveness, and bolstering its savings rate," it said.

The report noted that the structure of most economies can hinder international efforts to co-ordinate policies to promote world trade.

It said the industrial nations agreed at the Toronto economic summit last year to pursue specific reforms that would reduce trade barriers by cutting subsidies that impede the international flow of resources, reforming tax systems that discourage innovation, and reducing burdensome regulations, among other steps.

The report projected that without policy changes, Japan's trade surplus in goods and services would drop "significantly" in the next two years from about \$80 billion this year, while West Germany, with export growth rebounding, would see its overall surplus largely unchanged.

England's ballooning trade deficit in 1988 is unlikely to be reversed, and France, Italy and Canada should collectively have about the same deficit in 1990 that they did in 1988, the report said.

The United States, meanwhile, expects to see increase in exports exceed growth in imports, although rising payments on the national debt will hold back the overall reductions in the trade deficit.

The report also set up a special committee headed by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on the development of agriculture and fisheries.

The number of farmers has, been on the decrease as a consequence of industrialisation. In 1987, only 18.5 per cent of the population was in farming.

When completed, the project will increase milk and meat production by 50 and 20 per cent respectively, raise the incomes of traditional livestock herders and reduce the government's financial burden by privatising veterinary and other services.

The project will also help create livestock herders' associations and women groups.

It will also complement the country's structural adjustment programme by promoting the role of the private sector, particularly in the area of animal health care.

AMMAN

ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.86	1.81	OPNG	CL
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.10	2.10		
ARAB BANK	153.5155	---		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.75	4.54		
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MIANDAD'S INJURY GIVES THE TOURING SIDE A BLOW

New Zealand cruise to 7-wicket win over Pakistan

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, March 4. (Reuters): New Zealand cruised to a seven-wicket win over a Pakistani side missing star batsman Javed Miandad in a one-day match today.

New Zealand scored 171 for three in 40.5 overs in reply to Pakistan's 170 for seven in 47 overs. The match was scheduled for 50 overs each but was cut to 47 after rain interrupted play for half an hour.

Pakistan suffered a major blow before the game even began when Miandad was carried off the ground on a stretcher after injuring his back in practice.

Strength
He was taken to hospital for tests but team officials said no news was expected on his condition for 24 hours.

The home side was also under strength with fast bowler Richard Hadlee unfit for the match, the first of four one-day games, because of an ankle problem which began in the final Test against Pakistan.

The Pakistanis suffered a further blow when New Zealand captain John Wright won the toss and put them in on a green pitch which seemed and bounced.

Pakistan never fully recovered from the loss of four early wick-

ets, and although a late run flurry saw them reach 170, it was never going to be enough.

New Zealand lost both their openers for just 12 but a 103-run third wicket partnership between Andrew Jones and Martin Crowe ensured victory was not in doubt.

Jones and Crowe scored most of their runs by pushing the ball for ones and twos although Jones periodically unleashed a back-foot off-drive to the fence.

Careless
When Crowe was out to a careless lofted shot to cover-point, the left-handed Mark Greatbatch carried on where he left off with positive cricket. He hit a quick 35 not out.

Fast bowler Danny Morrison set New Zealand up for the win when he ripped through Pakistan's top order.

He had Shoaib Mohammad caught at first slip for two, bowled fellow opener Mudassar Nazar for eight and then bowled Aamer Malik for seven.

Paceman Gary Robertson chimed in by trapping Salim Malik leg before wicket for six to have Pakistan 23 for four.

Pakistan captain Imran Khan together with Miandad's replacement Ramiz Raja attempted to rebuild the innings.

When Imran went for 38 after

skyng a catch to Crowe, Ejaz Ahmed hit a rapid 42 not out to give respectability to Pakistan's score.

Morrison had 20 taken off his ninth over with Ejaz smashing the last two balls for six.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN

Mudassar Nazar b Morrison	8
Shoaib Mohammad c Greatbatch b Morrison	2
Aamer Malik b Morrison	7
Salim Malik b Robertson	5
Imran Khan c Crowe b Siddle	38
Ramiz Raja run out	51
Ejaz Ahmed not out	42
Abdul Qadir run out	0
Tamoor Ahmed not out	8
Extras (nb-4 w-2 lb-2)	8
Total (for seven wickets, 47 overs)	170
Did not bat: Salim Jaffer, Asghar Javed.	

Bowling: Morrison 10-2-44-3, Watson 10-1-47-0 (1-26), Robertson 9-2-21-1 (2-26), Siddle 9-1-17-1 (1-26), Keggela 9-0-39-0 (w-3)

NEW ZEALAND

J. Wright c Tamoor Ahmed b Imran Khan	7
R. Vance c Aamer Malik b Salim Jaffer	3
A. Jones not out	62
M. Crowe c Salim Malik b Salim Jaffer	35
M. Greatbatch not out	35
Extras (b-5 lb-4 w-1 nb-2)	19
Total for three wickets, 40.5 overs	171
Fall of wickets: 1-10 2-12 3-115	
Did not bat: Chris Keggela, Ian Smith, Gary Robertson, Martin Siddle, Danny Morrison, Willie Watson.	

Bowling: Imran Khan 5-0-17-1 (nb-3), Salim Jaffer 10-0-35-2, Asghar Javed 9-5-1-33-0 (nb-6-1-w), Mudassar Nazar 8-0-35-0, Tamoor Ahmed 6-0-32-0, Abdul Qadir 2-0-10-0.

Man of the Match: Andrew Jones

Result: New Zealand won by seven wickets.



Andrew Jones: Man of the Match

Smith, Gary Robertson, Martin Siddle, Danny Morrison, Willie Watson. Bowling: Imran Khan 5-0-17-1 (nb-3), Salim Jaffer 10-0-35-2, Asghar Javed 9-5-1-33-0 (nb-6-1-w), Mudassar Nazar 8-0-35-0, Tamoor Ahmed 6-0-32-0, Abdul Qadir 2-0-10-0.

Nomads suffer first loss

THIS weekend saw the deciding game of the Gulf Rugby Merit Table. Kuwait (KMMC) Nomads suffered their first loss of the season, going down by 12 points to 3. This defeat also ended a 17 game winning streak, unsurpassed in Kuwait rugby history.

In a hard and close fought game it was Kuwait's indiscipline at ruck and maul which proved to be their downfall. Winger Chris Matthews succeeded with 3 penalties, while Bryce Woodward opened the scoring with an excellent long range drop-goal. Graham Adams was unlucky with three attempts for Kuwait.

The game began on a slightly unfortunate note when a heavy tackle on Bahrain centre Roger John meant he played no further part in the game. Both sets of forwards tore into each other where no quarter was asked or given.

Kuwait faced the wind in the first half, and full back Mark Shipley did extremely well under the barrage of high balls he was faced with.

At half time, Kuwait trailed by

6-0. Soon after the break Kuwait had their best try scoring chance of the game when Bulles entered the line at speed to break the initial defence. However the Bahrain cover managed to push Harvey into touch at the corner.

In the scrum Kuwait were under pressure much of the game, but solid back-row defence ensured the Bahrain forwards made little headway. Half way into the second half Robinson kicked an excellent penalty to reduce Bahrain's lead.

However this was quickly extended by the boot of Matthews.

This result now means Kuwait cannot win the Merit Table. It is a pity that Bahrain have failed to fulfil their fixture in Kuwait as this would have had a say in the outcome. It is also time that the Gulf R.F.U. reformed the structure of the Merit Table so that teams such as Kuwait and Muscat do not begin the season at a distinct disadvantage.

However, the chance of glory still exists as Kuwait (KMMC) Nomads will meet Bahrain again next weekend in the final of the Gulf Knock-Out Cup.

Baggs hang on to lead

FOR the third week in a row, action in the K.B.R.C. Kuwait Monday Darts League has overshadowed that of the Wednesday League. Tanker Co. continued their recent upsurge in form, to catch Baggs on an off day and inflict only their second defeat of the season on the defending champions, by 5-1. Baggs were not helped by the absence of captain Bader Radi from the singles, as they slumped to a 4-0 defeat before the Mickey Mouse legs. All these games went to the deciding leg, as Tanker Co. players in each case just managed to get the deciding double before their opponents.

The outstanding match up saw sub Ian Thomas squeeze past Steve Edwards, despite Steve making nine scores of 80 or more, while Ian emulated Alan Walker's feat of last week in becoming the second substitute to score a 180. There was also a 140 for Lewi Jorgensen and three 100's for Doug Francis.

Whilst Tanker Co. again made the headlines at the oche, Mem-

bers added further spice to an already intriguing league, by announcing that due to player unavailability, they were no longer able to continue in the league. As a result all games involving the team have been scrubbed from the records, thus reducing the league season to 20 games.

With Straight As A Dai thus having no games, it was left to Cottor Hoose, 6-0 victors over Wallbangers and 4-2 conquerors of Bandits, and Cunning Linguists beating Pacifics 6-0, 2-0 to make up ground on the leaders, so that any one of these five sides can still take the title. Cunning Linguists have the most important role to play in the coming weeks, as they will have to face each of the teams above them, starting with Tanker Co. on Monday.

In the Ladies League, Bandits stayed clear thanks to their 2-1 win at Cottor Hoose in an excellent match. Again Queens lost ground, 1-2, also in a game against Cottor Hoose.

Following three consecutive

defeats Bulls Hitters reactivated their challenge in the Wednesday League by beating Equalisers 4-2 and 2-0 in a rearranged match, and then took out Chucks by 5-1 and 2-0. Bob Cole, Iwan Sobole, John Watson and Dave Ball all made 3 high scores. Equalisers held onto third place by taking a point off second team Soweto Slingers, as their ladies also had a good night beating Avengers 2-0.

At 3-1 after the singles Equalisers must have had high hopes of taking both points, but Slingers narrowly won two close doubles games to save a point. Has Beans showed that they certainly are not, in astounding Shower of Tossers 6-0, and throwing the battle for third place wide open.

Lady Tossers showed the men how it should be done winning 2-1 in a close contest. H2O regained top spot after a comfortable 6-0, 2-1 thrashing of Fintas Flyers, and with a game in hand must now have the edge over Soweto Slingers in the race for the 1988-89 title.

Not so in the Ladies League where Fintas again took both points to stay eight ahead of the rest, this week at the expense of Menage A Trois. Dinar Soarers however couldn't produce a double victory, going down to Mat Men 4-2.

Norwegian wins 50-km World Cup skiing race

OSLO, Norway, March 4. (AP): Vegard Ulvang of Norway took the lead halfway and raced on to win the men's tough 50-kilometre World Cup race today at the Holmenkollen Ski Festival in Nordic skiing.

His winning time, in heavy snow on a 16.6-kilometre track circled three times, was 2 hours, 17 minutes and 39.9 seconds.

Holger Bauroth of East Germany, who was only in sixth place at the halfway mark, finished strongly as the surprise runner-up in 2:18.03.7. He started one minute ahead of Ulvang.

Torgny Mogren and Christer Majback defended Sweden's colours by placing third and fourth in 2:19.25.8 and 2:19.28.6.

Swede Gunde Svan, the triple world champion, World Cup winner and pre-race favourite, ran into a tree on the first lap and injured his left arm. Svan raced on with the use of only one arm and one pole, and finished the race at a slow pace. He was 59th in 2:48.06.8, 30 minutes behind Ulvang.

Svan still remains atop the World Cup standings with 170 points. Ulvang is second with 148 points and Norway's Paul Gunnar Mikkelsen, who placed 12th, is third with 130.

Vladimir Smirnov of the Soviet Union, third after the first and second laps, finished fifth in 2:19.55.3.

Terje Langli of Norway, who led after one lap and held second place after two laps, slowed down to finish sixth in 2:19.55.3.

Uwe Bellmann of East Germany placed 7th in 2:20.00.3. Igor Badamshin of the Soviet Union was 8th in 2:20.17.8.

He was followed by veterans Oddvar Braa of Norway, 9th in 2:20.47.7, and Maurilio de Zolt of Italy, 10th in 2:21.07.8. Braa, 37, and De Zolt, 39, were the two oldest and most experienced skiers among the 78 entrants from 15 countries. Sixty skiers completed the race.

Walliser wins World Cup women's giant slalom

FURANO, Japan, March 4. (AP): Maria Walliser of Switzerland won the World Cup women's giant slalom today while compatriot Vreni Schneider finished third but clinched this season's World Cup women's overall title.

Downhill specialist Walliser, skiing in rain, sped down the 48-gate, 1,073-metre (3,541-foot) Furano Gondola course in 2 minutes and 20.37 seconds.

Walliser posted the fastest times in both of her runs — 1:12.03 and 1:08.34.

It was Walliser's first World Cup victory in the giant slalom after winning two downhill races earlier this season.

Mateja Svet of Yugoslavia was second in the giant slalom with 2:21.24.

Boosted

Schneider was third in 2:21.98, which was worth 15 points and boosted her season total to 326 points, placing her an unbeatable 77 points ahead of Walliser in the World Cup women's standings. Walliser has 249 points.

Schneider had a wobbly start in the first run.

"It was not that big of a mistake in the first run. I tried my best in the second (run)," Schneider said.

"I had no pressure as I won the



Maria Walliser (slalom) race yesterday. I skied well and freely today. Winning the World Cup overall title was a big goal for me, so I am very happy," Schneider said.

Schneider won a record 12

Wilkins helps Hawks to crush Hornets

NEW YORK, March 4. (AP): Dominique Wilkins scored 35 points, including six slam dunks, before sitting out the final 16 minutes as the Atlanta Hawks crushed the Charlotte Hornets 133-109 in National Basketball Association games in Atlanta last night.

Atlanta never trailed, breaking a 2-2 tie on a layup by Glenn Rivers and going on to its eighth victory in 10 games since the NBA's all-star break.

Jazz 107, Heat 95
In Miami, Karl Malone scored 15 of his 34 points in the third quarter as Utah broke open a close game. After scoring the last five points of the first half to lead 45-40, the Jazz scored the first eight points of the second half.

Miami never got closer than eight points thereafter.

Malone, the NBA's second leading scorer with 29.2 average, hit his stride after a first-half points.

Celtics 107, Mavericks 106
In Boston, Dennis Johnson hit a 3-point shot and a driving layup in the last two minutes to key Boston's fifth victory in its

last six games. The Mavericks are winless in nine games in Boston, the only city where they haven't won.

Johnson, who had made just four of 32 shots from 3-point range this season, sank his desperation 3-pointer with the time almost run out.

Pistons 96, Cavaliers 90
In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Isiah Thomas made two baskets to key a decisive 6-0 burst in the fourth quarter and Joe Dumars scored all 10 of his points in the final 5:10 to decide a game between the NBA's top two teams.

It was Detroit's first victory in four meetings with the Cavaliers this season and lifted the Pistons, 38-16, within four games of first-place Cleveland, 43-13, in the Central Division.

Bulls 102, Bucks 96
In Chicago, Michael Jordan scored 11 of his 28 points during a 19-9 spurt late in the fourth quarter and Chicago held on to defeat Milwaukee for the fifth straight time this season.

The Bulls are 14-3 against Milwaukee over the last three years and have won 12 of the last 13

meetings.

Supersonics 116, Rockets 106
In Seattle, Seattle's Dale Ellis scored 13 of his 39 points in the fourth quarter and Akem Olajuwon and Eric "Sleepy" Floyd, two of Houston's top three scorers, were ejected as the Rockets suffered their seventh consecutive loss.

Olajuwon, who scored 12 points, half his per-game average, was ejected with 8:30 left after picking up his second technical in a scuffle with Seattle's Michael Cage. The Sonics led at the time 89-84.

Olajuwon got his first technical during a second-period scuffle with Cage. Floyd was ejected with 1:32 left in the first half for arguing a foul call. The Rockets were charged with five technicals, the other going to coach Don Chaney.

Lakers 139, Pacers 117
In Inglewood, California, A.C. Green scored 24 points and Magic Johnson added 20 as Los Angeles coasted to its fourth straight victory and snapped Indiana's fourth-game winning streak.

Best thwarts Indian spinners

BRIDGETOWN, March 4. (Reuters): A fighting unbeaten 60 by West Indies President's XI captain Carlisle Best frustrated India's spinners on the second day of the opening match of their Caribbean cricket tour yesterday.

The President's XI, mostly comprised of Test prospects, were 163 for four at the close in reply to India's first innings total of 356.

Fluent

Best, a model of concentration, laboured for 237 minutes. A sparkling extra-cover drive was the only four in his innings, but he hit a straight six off off-spinner Arshad Ayub and loathed another wide of mid-on, off the bowling of off-spinner Margashayam Venkatarama.

Keith Arthurton, who helped Best add 71 for the third wicket, was the most fluent of the batsmen, never afraid to use his feet

against the tight spinners. His timing was also excellent.

But the left-hander was run out for 38 after a mix-up with Best. He batted 82 minutes and struck six fours.

Another left hander, Brian Lara, was also run out. He shipped and fell after being sent back by Best having made 16.

All-rounder Robert Haynes, yet another left-hander, wasted no time in clouting 20 not out before the close.

India struck two early blows. Paceman Kapil Dev forced opener Phil Simmons to edge a ball into his pads, presenting a simple catch for Ravi Shastri in the gully and Ayub removed Andrew Jackman equally cheaply.

India, 283 for six overnight, had their total boosted by last pair Sanjeev Sharma and Venkatarama, who added 39 in the morning session. Sharma reached 40 not out, aided by six fours and a five.

Scoreboard

INDIA first innings (continued from 283 for six wickets)

R.P. Singh lbw b Gray	14
K.S. More c Perry b Gray	5
A. Ayub c Jackman b Ferris	7
S.K. Sharma not out	40
M. Venkatarama b Haynes	12
Extras (lb 7, w 2, nb 5)	14
TOTAL	356
Wickets fell at: 7-294, 8-295, 10-356.	
Bowling: Benjamin 14-1-48-1 (nb1), Gray 28-7-89-3 (nb2), Ferris 24-4-88-3 (nb1, w2), Perry 16-3-52-1 (nb1), Haynes 29-4-77-2.	

PRESIDENT'S XI first innings

C.A. Best not out	60
P.V. Simmons c Shastri b Kapil Dev	16
A.F.D. Jackman b Ayub	16
R.C. Lara run out	38
R.C. Haynes not out	16
Extras (b 1, lb 3, nb 3)	7
Total (for four wickets)	163
Wickets fell at: 1-13, 2-39, 3-110, 4-139.	
To bat: W.K.M. Benjamin, D. Williams, A.H. Gray, N.O. Perry, G.J.F. Ferris.	
Bowling: Kapil Dev 7-2-9-1, Sharma 10-1-42-0, Singh 5-0-22-0 (nb3), Ayub 17-7-25-1, Shastri 8-2-29-0, Venkatarama 17-2-52-0.	

Marlboro Lights

The spirit of Marlboro in a light cigarette.

GOVERNMENT WARNING. SMOKING IS A MAJOR CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER AND DISEASES OF THE LUNGS, HEART AND ARTERIES.

SPORTS

China beat Bangladesh

DHAKA, March 4, (AP): China kept its winning streak alive by beating injury-plagued Bangladesh 2-0 tonight in World Cup soccer qualification play.

China, which trailed 1-0 at halftime, has now won two matches against Bangladesh and three against Thailand in the Asian Group Five. Bangladesh has yet to post a victory, previously losing one match apiece to Iran and Thailand.

China's first score came 24 minutes into the first half when Wang Badshan converted a cross from Xie Yuxian into a header and sent it straight into the net.

Substitute Ma Lin scored China's second goal off a corner in the 18th minute of the second half.

Bangladesh goalkeeper Mohammad Mohsin, who was injured in the first match against China, returned to the field tonight and kept up his team's morale until the final moments by preventing at least four Chinese goals.

Another top Bangladesh player, Rezaul Karim Rehan, played for the first time since being injured against Iran, but he failed to last the match.

Bangladesh displayed spirited midfield manoeuvres as the Dhaka stadium crowd of 25,000 cheered, but it couldn't get the ball past China's goalkeeper, Zhang Huikang.

"We played a sporting game and won a deserving match," said Zhang Jilong, China's manager.

"We played our best," Bangladesh manager Harunur Rashid said. "However, the Chinese played better."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Belgian wins

GHENT, Belgium, March 4, (AP): Etienne de Wilde of Belgium won the 44th Ghent-Ghent Cycling Classic today after breaking away from a pack of 60-odd cyclists a few kilometres from the finish.

Ireland's Sean Kelly was second and Remig Stumpf of West Germany finished third.

Defender sent home

EDINBURGH, March 4, (Reuters): Defender David Naray was sent home from Scotland's World Cup training headquarters today for medical tests after complaining of a nagging back injury.

The 32-year-old Dundee United centre-back required injections earlier in the week, but was unfit to train today.

Manager Andy Roxburgh said he hoped Naray would recover before Scotland's World Cup European Group Five qualifier against France on Wednesday.

Desert Orchid

LONDON, March 4, (Reuters): Desert Orchid, the 5-2 favourite, will definitely run in the Cheltenham Gold Cup horse race on March 16, trainer David Elsworth said today.

The news, announced at Newbury races, will cheer the many fans who have made the grey Britain's most popular racehorse for many years.

Chamberlin wins

NANCY, France, March 4, (AP): Paul Chamberlin of the United States defeated Jeremy Bates of Britain in yesterday's quarterfinals of the \$130,000 Lorraine Open tennis tournament.

Chamberlin beat Bates in two sets, 6-4, 6-4.

In other play, Belgium's Eduardo Masso defeated Sweden's Johann Carlsson in three sets, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.

Boxing title

MEDELLIN, Colombia, March 4, (Reuters): Colombian Elvis Alvarez won the vacant WBO boxing flyweight title here last night by unanimous decision after 12 rounds against Dominican Miguel Mercedes.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of Sheraton Bridge Club Game held on Tuesday.

N/S
1. Mrs Rita & Sultan Ali
2. Mrs R. & Hezail
3. Mrs and Mr F. Farah
E/W

1. Sagre & Gajjar
2. Dr Sead & Imam Ali
3. Nizar & Chandra Shekhar

Results of the Mesliah Bridge Club games played on Monday.

1. Lolio Nardwaite & Don Matterni
2. Usenben Hui & Nida Khalaf
3. Subendran Oikay & Nida Khalaf

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club games played on Wednesday.

1. Rima Farah & Nicole Iskander
2. Margaret Maynard & Sozan Katanore
3. Subendran Oikay & Nida Khalaf

Graf breezes through another light workout

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 4, (Reuters): Defending champion Steffi Graf of West Germany breezed through another light workout in the quarterfinals of the \$200,000 Women's Hardcourt Tennis Championships yesterday.

The top-seeded world number one needed just 52 minutes to brush aside eighth-seeded American Terry Phelps 6-3, 6-0 and set up a semifinal encounter with Australian sixth seed Hana Mandlikova, a 7-5, 7-5 winner over American Camille Benjamin.

Record

"My serve was working really well," said Graf after raising her 1989 match record to 15-0. "I think it was a good match, but I know I can play better. I was not returning my forehand well."

Today's other semifinal, an unseeded all-American affair, will pit Katrina Adams against Ann Henricksson, who ousted unseeded Italian Linda Ferrando 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

Fifth-seeded American Patty Fendick failed to capitalise on

three match points and fell victim to the 96th-ranked Adams 4-6, 7-6, 7-6.

After taking the opening set, the 20th-ranked Fendick fell behind 2-5 in the second set. The fifth seed rallied to force a tiebreak in which she held three match points.

Adams, however, fought off each of Fendick's attempts to close out the match and took the tiebreak 10-8 to level the contest at one set each.

The third set also went to a tiebreak but was much less dramatic. Adams ran off six straight points from 1-1 to complete her upset.

Struggled

Mandlikova, who returned to action in January after a six-month layoff, struggled against Benjamin in her quarterfinal. Twice she found herself down 3-5 and had to fight her way back, winning the last four games of each set.

"I should not have let it go to 5-3 in the first set," said Mandlikova. "I lost my concentration. I really had to put myself into another gear."

Reggi survives to advance to semifinals

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma, March 4, (AP): Third-seeded Raffaella Reggi survived a strong test from Carling Bassett-Seguso last night to advance to the semifinals of the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Oklahoma Tennis tournament.

Reggi of Italy won the match 6-2, 4-6, 4-4 when Bassett-Seguso retired after hurting her right ankle while running to return a Reggi backhand.

Reggi got off to a fast start in the first set by capitalising on Bassett-Seguso's mistakes. She broke the Canadian in the third game but Bassett-Seguso broke back in the fourth to even the set at 2-2.

Reggi then won four straight games to take the set.

"In the second set, she kept mixing up her shots," said Reggi. "She kept looping the ball, lobbing me and really changing things up. I just didn't know what to do."

The third set opened with Reggi breaking Bassett-Seguso in the first game, but Bassett-Seguso broke back in the second and fourth games to go up 3-1.

In another quarterfinal match, Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands eliminated Claudia Porwick of West Germany 5-7, 6-3, 6-3. Bollegraf will meet Reggi in the semifinals today.

Also, fourth-seeded Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union beat No. 7 Amy Frazier of the United States in straight sets 6-2, 7-6 (7-5). Meskhi will play ninth-seeded Etsuko Inoue of Japan, a 7-6 (8-6), 6-3 winner over Betsy Nagelsen of the United States in the other semifinal.

WORLD NUMBER ONE BEATEN IN FOUR-HOUR MATCH

McEnroe upsets Lendl in semifinal

DALLAS, March 4, (Reuters): John McEnroe beat arch-rival Ivan Lendl for the first time in more than three years yesterday in a four-hour semifinal match at the World Championship Tennis (WCT) finals.

McEnroe knocked the world number one out of the \$685,000 tournament 6-7 (4-7) 7-6 (7-5) 6-2 7-5 and will meet his fellow American Brad Gilbert in the final today.

"It was a great victory for me," said McEnroe, ranked sixth in the world.

Certified

"It means a lot to beat him in a certified match. We have gone in cycles and hopefully this one will get me going. I am elated I won."

Lendl lost his temper during the match, costing him three code violations from British professional umpire Gerry Armstrong.

They included a point penalty and a game penalty which brought him within one violation of being defaulted.

"I am not upset at the way I behaved because I did nothing wrong," said Lendl.

Violation

"He (Armstrong) called a violation for something I never said. The other night against (Swiss player Jakob) Hlasek they were right, this time they were not," Lendl said of the three code violations he incurred in the quarterfinals.

"I am very, very upset at the officiation and I am disappointed at losing, but there will be more losses."

McEnroe beat Lendl for the



McEnroe: knocks No. 1

first time in three-and-a-half years and for the first time in five matches to level their career contest at 15 wins each.

Lendl started the match superbly to lead by a set and 4-2, but McEnroe seized on a concentration lapse from Lendl in the vital

seventh game of the second set to keep his chances alive by winning four consecutive games.

McEnroe said he got himself pumped up through the support of the crowd of 16,123, but stayed in touch with the match by reminding himself of their encounter at the Australian Open in January which Lendl won in straight sets.

Momentum

"Things were looking bad, but I hung in," said McEnroe. "It was so intense out there, but I was starting to get the momentum going and he was getting irritated ... it was sort of like knowing that something was going to happen."

Lendl felt that he was not moving quickly enough and he squandered far too many chances as McEnroe, who took advantage of accurate swinging serves, did the right things.

The American played a superb serve-and-volley game, logging 49 service winners to just 20 for Lendl and winning 89 points on approaches to the net.

Sharp

"I just didn't do it," said Lendl. "It was a combination of being half a step slow and John playing a lot of matches lately and being sharp."

In the final, with the winner getting \$200,000 and the runner-up \$100,000, McEnroe will face Gilbert for the 12th time. McEnroe has lost to him only once.

Gilbert, who came into the tournament as an alternate to replace Boris Becker of West Germany, defeated Sweden's Mikael Pernfors on Thursday.

Sheffield Wednesday beat Charlton

LONDON, March 4, (Reuters): Sheffield Wednesday eased their relegation worries today when they beat fellow-strugglers Charlton 3-1 in the only First Division soccer match to be played in England.

Late goals from Icelandic international Sigi Jonsson and Irish international Tony Galvin secured a decisive victory — Wednesday's first at home since October and first away since Ron Atkinson took over as manager following his dismissal by Atletico Madrid last month.

David Hirst took advantage of a defensive error to put Wednesday ahead after 28 minutes, but Paul Williams levelled two minutes later with his 15th goal of the season.

Jonsson and Galvin capped a period of steady Wednesday pressure with the decisive strikes which brought their first goals of the season.

Wednesday's win did not affect the positions at the bottom of the first division. Wednesday remained 18th but now level with 17th-placed Charlton and 16th-placed Queens Park Rangers on 20 points.

Newcastle and West Ham, 19th and last, did not play today when all other First Division matches were postponed to assist England's preparations for a World Cup qualifying match in Albania on Wednesday.

In the Second Division, leaders Chelsea were also without a match, but second-placed Manchester City failed to take advantage — they were beaten 1-

0 by fourth-placed Watford.

Iwan Roberts headed the goal after 32 minutes to end Watford's run of six games without a win.

Third-placed Blackburn were beaten 3-0 at struggling Brighton.

Results

English Division One
Sheffield Wed 3 Charlton 1
Postponed: Coventry v Arsenal, Liverpool v West Ham, Manchester United v Everton, Millwall v Middlesbrough, Nottingham Forest v Newcastle, Queens Park Rangers v Luton, Southampton v Norwich, Tottenham v Aston Villa, Wimbledon v Derby.

English Division Two
Birmingham 0 Oxford 0
Bradford 1 Barnsley 2
Brighton 3 Blackburn 0
Crystal Palace 3 Bournemouth 0
Hull 1 Stoke 4
Ipswich 1 Swindon 2
Leicester 1 Walsall 0
Plymouth 0 Portsmouth 1
Watford 1 Man. City 0
Postponed: Sunderland v Chelsea

English Division Three — no matches scheduled
Scottish Premier Division — no matches scheduled
English Division Three
Bristol City 3 Northampton 1
Bury 1 Gillingham 0
Cardiff 0 Mansfield 0
Chester 0 Bristol Rovers 2
Chesterfield 2 Southend 1
Fulham 1 Swans 0
Huddersfield 1 Aldershot 1
Preston 1 Blackpool 3
Reading 1 Notts County 3
Wigan 1 Sheffield U 2
Wolverhampton 1 Bolton 0

English Division Four

Carlisle 1 Exeter 0
Crewe 3 Hartlepool 0
Dartmouth 2 Lincoln 0
Hereford 4 Peterborough 0
Leyton Orient 3 Burnley 0
Rotherham 1 Torquay 0
Scunthorpe 4 Rochdale 0
Sheepthorpe 2 Scarborough 2
York 0 Grimsby 3

Played Friday:
Halifax 2 Doncaster 0
Tranmere 2 Wrexham 1
Playing Sunday: Cambridge v Colchester

Scottish Division One
Clyde 1 Ayr 0
Clydebank 0 Dunfermline 1
Falkirk 0 Meadowbank 0
Forfar 1 St Johnstone 1
Kilmarnock 0 Airdrieonians 1
Morton 1 Partick 1
Raith 4 Queen of South 1

Scottish Division Two
Albion 1 East Fife 2
Alloa 4 Stenhousemuir 0
Berwick 2 East Stirling 0
Cowdenbeath 1 Dumbarton 1
Queen's Park 2 Montrose 2
Stirling 1 Strathgordon 4
Postponed: Brechin v Arbroath

Grosprion wins
HINDELANG, West Germany, March 4, (AP): Edgar Grosprion of France won the men's Mogul competition finals during the World Freestyle Ski Championships yesterday.

Raphael Monod of France won the women's Mogul competition final.

Joerg Biner of Switzerland finished second in the men's competition, followed by France's Eric Berthoin in third and American Scott Ogren in fourth.

England's points came from a first half try by their captain and centre Will Carling and another right at the end by flanker Andy Robinson.

In between Rob Andrew landed a penalty, but generally the England fly half was again in poor kicking form, missing both conversions, two penalties and two attempted dropped goals.

Meanwhile, three tries from

England beat France to share Five Nations lead

LONDON, March 4, (Reuters): England gained their first win over France at Twickenham for 10 years today with an emphatic 11-0 victory today which gave them a share of the lead in the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship.

In another match Scotland beat Ireland 37-21.

Even the most partisan French supporters could not have argued with an England success based on the stirring efforts of their forwards, notably in the line-out where lock Paul Acford was outstanding in only his fourth international.

The French holders of the Five Nations title with Wales, came more into the match when they shortened their lineup in the second half.

But throughout the 80 minutes they never once seriously threatened the England line and in the end were soundly beaten for the first time in this year's tournament as England joined Scotland, 37-21 winners over Ireland, at the top of the championship table.

England's points came from a first half try by their captain and centre Will Carling and another right at the end by flanker Andy Robinson.

In between Rob Andrew landed a penalty, but generally the England fly half was again in poor kicking form, missing both conversions, two penalties and two attempted dropped goals.

Meanwhile, three tries from

winger Iwan Tukalo kept Scottish title hopes alive in the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship match against Ireland at Murrayfield today.

The Scots swept to a 37-21 victory in a spectacular game which saw eight tries in all.

Scotland led 19-6 after 30 minutes but 10 minutes later at half-time the Irish were 21-19 ahead. Six tries had been scored in the opening 40 minutes, three apiece.

Full-back Peter Dods turned the match Scotland's way in the second half with two penalties to make the score 25-21.

Then forward Damian Cronin scored a fourth try for Scotland, converted by Dods to put the home side in control again at 31-21.

In the final minute Tukalo went over for his third try and Dods completed his fourth successful conversion for a resounding victory.

John Jeffrey scored Scotland's other try while Brendan Mullin (two) and full-back Fergus Dineley crossed for Ireland during their golden spell in the first half.

Standings

Standings after the fourth round of the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship today (table under — played, won, drawn, lost, points for, against, points difference)

England 3 2 1 0 39 15 +24
Scotland 3 2 0 1 27 44 -17
France 3 2 0 1 37 44 -7
Ireland 4 1 0 3 64 92 -28
Wales 3 0 0 3 32 73 -41
Final round March 18: France v Scotland, Wales v England.

Pohl sets three course records

CORAL SPRINGS, Florida, March 4, (AP): Dan Pohl had just completed the best round of his life, a 10-under-par 62.

He had set three course records, for nine holes (29), 18 holes (62) and 36 holes (128).

He had a three-shot lead yesterday when darkness halted second-round play in the weather-ravaged \$800,000 Honda Classic.

But his thoughts were on the big one that got away.

"I think I'd rather shoot 59 than win the golf tournament," said the 32-year-old Pohl, who had the only two victories of his 12-season career in 1986.

"I think it's more important. It's the standard. It's the record. It's there. It's what everybody talks about," he said.

And it's only been done once in PGA tour competition, by Al Geiberger in the second round of the 1977 Memphis Open.

Pohl, however, once had that record within sight during the off-delayed second round.

"It was possible," Pohl said. "Realistically, I had a chance. I was thinking about it."

That was after he'd birdied the fourth hole, his 13th of the round and 23rd of the long, long day.

"I was nine under for the day with five to play, and two of those were par-5s," Pohl said.

"I knew I could reach the (par-5) fifth with a 4-iron, so if I could make eagle there, then I'd only need to play the last four (holes) two under par. And that's possible," he said.

But he wasn't able to do it.

He two-putted for birdie on the fifth and then parred home, missing birdie puts of 12, 10 and 12 feet on the last three holes.

He reached the tournament halfway point at 16 under par.

For the second consecutive day, half the field, 72 players, was stranded on the course — this time by darkness.

The overnight suspension marked the eighth time in nine tournaments that a round had not been completed on the day it started.

Returned

Pohl was among the 72 players who returned at daylight yesterday to complete first-round play. Pohl had 10 holes to go and played them four under, then turned around immediately and began the second round from the 10th tee at the TPC course at Eagle Trace.

He promptly pitched in from 82 yards for an eagle, came within six inches of making a hole-in-one on the 11th and ran off a string of four consecutive birdies beginning on the 14th, giving him 29 over the back and leaving the rest of the pack struggling in his wake.

"I can't believe it," said Buddy Gardner, who had the best two opening rounds of his 12-year career. "I shoot 65, 66 and I'm three behind."

Gardner was tied for second at 131 with Ted Schulz, who came back this morning to complete a second round 65 that included birdies on three of his last five holes.

Defending champion Joey Sindelar was another stroke back at 132, four behind, after playing the first two rounds in 68-64.

He was followed at 133 by Payne Stewart (68, 65) and Paul Azinger (67-66).

Declined

British Open champion Seve Ballesteros of Spain, suffering from flu, completed only nine holes of second round play yesterday then declined to return to the course following a rain delay.

He was 5-over par for the tournament at that point and had no chance of making the cut for the final two rounds.

Ballesteros, however, did not notify officials of his intentions and so was listed as disqualified.

Mark Calcavecchia, who has won twice this year and leads the season's money-winners, shot 74 over the second round and failed to qualify at 146.

US Open titleholder Curtis Strange was 71-139 and Masters champion Sandy Lyle of Scotland shot 73-140.

Van Hulst shatters 3,000-metre world record

BUDAPEST, March 4, (Reuters): European champion Ely Van Hulst demolished the women's 3,000 metres world record today as she pounced to claim gold at the World Indoor Athletics Championships.

The Dutch runner clocked eight minutes 33.82 seconds to slash nearly six seconds off the mark set by South African-born Briton Zola Budd three years ago.

Van Hulst played the perfect waiting game to land the title.

Briton Liz McColgan, the Olympic 10,000 metres silver medalist, had set the punishing pace which put Budd's time of 8:39.79 under threat.

Twice Van Hulst appeared to be struggling to stay in touch as the Scot ground out the laps.

But McColgan had no response as Van Hulst swept past her with half-a-lap remaining to take the gold.

It was the second world record of the day, following Australian Kerry Saxby's 3,000 metres walk triumph in 12:01.65.

Van Hulst paid glowing tribute to McColgan, who took the silver in 8:34.80, with Romanian Doina Melinte a distant third in 8:46.70.

"The main thing for me was to stay close to her," said Van Hulst. "She was an ideal rabbit and set a very fast world record pace. I shall not forget Budapest for a long time."



Australia's Kerry Saxby screams with joy after setting a new world record in 3,000-metre women's walk at the Budapest World Indoor championship yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

It was double disappointment for McColgan, who did all the work in the Olympic 10,000 metres final only to be denied gold by the finishing speed of Olga Bondarenko of the Soviet Union.

Romanian Doina Melinte retained the 1,500 metres title she won in Indianapolis two years ago with a storming finishing burst.

She clocked 4:04.79 with Russian Svetla Kitova second in 4:05.71.

An exhausted McColgan went straight into the race from the 3,000 metres and finished a creditable sixth in 4:10.16.

West German Helga Arendt hung on bravely to win the women's 400 metres crown after taking the lead just before half-way.

The European indoor silver medalist in 1988 opened a lead of five metres off the final bend and then withstood the challenge of American Diane Dixon to clinch the gold.

ARAB TIMES

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